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Finding God and His Purpose for You

We can learn from nature that everyone has a purpose. Every creature created by God is a part of this beautiful environment. Each has a role to play in God's creation. Every ant, bee, and bird all play a part in this beautiful planet. From the smallest to the greatest, every creature is content in what it does. Wouldn't it be nice to find our place in this world like that? Wouldn't it be great to find complete satisfaction in knowing that I am doing exactly what God intended me to do? Since the first of creation until now, not one creature born on this earth was born without a purpose, including you.

I spent years trying to find my place in the kingdom of God. I searched for my purpose for being here on this planet. I made some wrong choices and took some wrong steps, all looking for my place in His kingdom. I found a purpose that seemed spiritual but it was only a distraction. Do you know that we can be doing "the work of the Lord", and it not be His will?

When we discover our place on this planet, then we will truly find life. You have a **God ordained purpose** in this life. What a shame that would be to live our entire life and never find out who we are meant to be, living each day with the frustration of never being complete. Many Christians settle for a purpose, but it is not a God ordained purpose.

Matthew 11:29-30 says, "*Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.*" The only yoke that Jesus wants on you is to learn from Him. He only wants you to spend time and learn from Him first, before you begin working for Him. It is through this season of knowing Him that you will find your purpose.

Money, big houses, and nice cars cannot complete you. Fellowship and ministry can never complete you. You'll find emptiness until you discover and walk in the very purpose God has for you. There is a life of purpose and of fulfillment where every day is an adventure that can only come from God.

When I first started in ministry, my zeal to be used overrode any wisdom I had for His direction. I was full of insecurities and looking for a purpose. It didn't take long for me to find a feeling of fulfillment in meeting the needs of others. My hunger for God to use me pushed me to a place of doing things for God before I was ready. My Heavenly Father was wanting me to first find Him, then for Him to help me deal with my fear and insecurities. But because I didn't, I found myself looking for a purpose outside of His will.

It's easier to get busy for God than it is to let go of the control of your life. The hardest step into God for me, was to be intimate with Him. It seemed easier to work for Him than to open up my whole soul and life. Once we make a choice to bypass the steps He has for us, we naturally try to find a purpose. God said "to obey is better than sacrifice", because the natural reaction of disobedience is to begin to sacrifice more. Our first priority before building His kingdom should be getting to know the King.

I had always felt a type of fulfillment in serving. I was busy serving Jesus doing things that needed to be done, yet even while doing many things for God I was never settled on the inside. It was never enough; I could

never find a peace that I had done enough. Doing things for God took the place of the intimacy that He was really after.

There is only one way to truly be fulfilled in my life and that is by finding our **God ordained purpose**. Everything else is fake, even if it seems spiritual. I woke up one day realizing that I had replaced my relationship with God with being busy. I had actually gotten to the place where the busier I got the closer to Him I felt. Yet, even with that, I never felt at home with God. I could never just sit at Jesus' feet and enjoy His presence; I had to always be doing something for Him. If we are not careful we will end up with a shallow fulfillment that never is complete because we are not made to be busy. Jesus said in Matthew 11:28, "*Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*"

In our walk with God we must first find Him and build an intimate relationship with Him; one not based on works but on relationship. This is the rest that has been provided for us. Matthew 6:33, "*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*" He wants us to fall in love with Him. The word "seek" means to worship and to seek after Him. He wants us to **seek** Him not **work** for Him.

Jesus, in the midst of His ministry surrounded by hurting and dying people, would separate Himself again and again for fellowship with His Father. The apostles, rather than be busy, chose to separate themselves to prayer and the Word (Acts 6:4). When we are sent out by God to walk in our purpose it will not be at the sacrifice of our time with Him.

We have the same pattern laid before us; the way to find our purpose is not to fill a need but to fall in love with God. Then, to hear His voice and, step by step, He will both train and equip us for everything that we are called to be. We are not to seek purpose, but Him. It is God who will release you to do a work for Him and until that time His desire is for you to get to know Him.

There are no second-class people in the Body of Christ. The Apostle is no greater than the Ministry of Helps. You and the call on your life are just as important as Peter, James and John. God desires for you to know Him as much as anyone else.

The people of Israel were led directly from God. God's heart was to lead their steps into victory day after day. It was His heart to provide for their every need. Yet we can see a glimpse of human nature in First Samuel chapter eight. They ask for a man to lead them, they wanted a king to follow. God, through the prophet Samuel, told them that to have a man lead you will cost you. He will take your sons and your daughters as servants, he will take of your goods and properties. Even with the warning of what having a man stand between them and God would cost them, they still demanded that they could have a king reign over them.

They said in verse twenty that, "*we also may be like all the nations and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.*" They were tired of fighting and following God; they wanted someone else to represent God for them. Don't let someone tell you God's will. Don't let some man tell you what your purpose is.

It is the job of the Body of Christ to fulfill the mission of winning the world. The Body of Christ is to make disciples of all men and you have a part in that. Each of us are to be placed into our position by God. He has a plan for every need to be met by all of us. Each of us doing a specific work that He has asked us to do.

Someone asked Lester Sumrall if God would use them. He replied, "Use you, my God He'll work you like crazy." It may seem like He is placing you on the sidelines when you spend most of your time praying and seeking after Him, but really He is just preparing you, so that He can work you like crazy! Don't stop seeking after Him; it is in Him that every plan and purpose for you will come to pass.

In focusing your life on seeking after Him instead of building a kingdom for Him, you will never need to be needed by others. With a pure heart you can direct each person to lean on Jesus. As you spend intimate time with your Father, He will lead and guide your every step into your **God ordained purpose**.

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