

The Importance of Knowing Your Purpose

Everyone of us has an assignment from God, but sin has perverted the minds of so many people to the point where they've lost touch with who they are. After all, we are in the realm of the earth for a reason and a season, and this means that we are purpose-driven creatures. Nevertheless, when sin infects our minds, we lose touch with our purposes, and we go from being purpose-driven creatures to being creatures driven by purpose. What's the difference? The difference is what or who's behind the wheel. When we are purpose-driven, we sit behind the wheels of our lives, and God fuels us with the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding we'll need to get to our purposes. When we are driven by purpose, it's because our minds are perverted, meaning, our minds are turned away from God. A person whose mind is perverted is a person who will not function the way God designed them to function. Instead, that person will always unintentionally work against his own or her own purpose. What this means for us is we won't be driven by our God-given purposes; instead, we will allow our voids, needs, desires, and fears to drive us from one problem to another in our pointless searches for solutions to those problems. We need our purposes to live long, happy, and peaceful lives, but at the same time, we need an intimate relationship with God to receive and understand our purposes. When we find it hard to make time for God, what ends up happening is we lose touch with who we are and we begin to absorb our environments (friends, family, co-workers, communities), and after a while, we began to think, speak, reason, act and react in accordance with those environments. That's because we are creatures of adaption, and we often adapt to whatever we submerge ourselves in, and that's why God wants us to submerge ourselves in His Word so that we can become more like Himself. When a person is not operating in their God-given purpose, that person starts operating in idleness, and idle people need entertainment. That's why you'll find that most people who don't know their purposes will oftentimes surround themselves with crowds of people because, when our minds are idle, we look for entertainment. If you become friends with a person who has not yet discovered his or her own purpose, that person will likely assign you to a role, and each role they give to others is a role that represents a void in their hearts. In other words, in that person's mind, you become nothing more than a tool to fix certain areas of their lives. For example, let's say that you are a guy who works at a car dealership. For the most part, you're happy, and your life seems to be running smoothly, but at the same time, you haven't discovered your purpose yet. So, when you go home from work, you're looking to get into something. What will happen is you will call whatever friend you have based on your need or want for that day, so if you want to go bowling, you'll have a specific friend that you will call on for bowling. If you want to watch a football game, you'll have a specific friend you'll call to watch the game with. If you're down and out, you'll have a specific friend that you use to uplift you. If you have a friend who you have a lot in common with, you'll likely refer to him as your "best friend". This doesn't mean that out of all your friends, he's the best guy around. What this means is you've decided that he fits better into your life (or your voids) than any of your other friends. Instead of operating in your purpose, you will put your life on cruise-control, letting the days, months and years pass you by until it's your time to clock out your body and meet the Lord. In other words, you are living your life by riding on God's

clock. You are looking for the rewards of God, but you refuse to do the job God has given you to get to those rewards. Simply put, you want a free paycheck, and with God, this just doesn't happen. This is the mindset of the average believer today. Most people live their lives in cruise control, never venturing outside of the safety of what they know to allow themselves to be introduced to new knowledge. That's because the average person either fears knowledge or doesn't want to make time or room for new knowledge. When we reject knowledge, we are in that same hour rejecting the call of God on our lives. Hosea 4:6: My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

One of the biggest problems that has arisen in the church today is a lot of the people are members who don't know how to function or where they should be functioning. Remember, we are all members of the body of Christ, but if you don't know where you're supposed to be in the body of Christ, you won't be able to function in your God-given role. Because a lot of people don't know who they are, they go to church looking to be entertained, but not taught. For this reason, many people are what we refer to as "church-hoppers": people who go from one church to the other in search of a church home. That's because many of today's brand of church people have itchy ears and idle minds. They don't want to know God intimately, and they don't want to know how to live holy. They only want to know that when they die, the pearly gates of Heaven will be open for them, so they go to the church (building), not understanding that they are the church. They look for churches where they can be entertained by charismatic preachers, worldly choirs, and enough scandal to ensure they'll have something to talk about with their friends. They come into the church (building) wearing their Sunday's best, and ready to entertain and be entertained. After an emotional charade and a flesh-filled parade, they leave the building feeling as if they've pulled the wool over God's eyes. After all, they've cried in the building, they've danced in the building, and they've prayed in the building, so that must count for something....right? Once they leave that building, the Lord continues to call their names, asking them if they'll accept the call He's placed on their lives, but they ignore Him. They've learned to tune out His voice in favor of their own. They are faithful tithers who wear the biggest hats, and scream the loudest "hallelujahs", but they have yet to discover who they are in the Lord because they're too busy being who they want to be in the world. They're always at odds with other idle believers because they look to man for elevation.

What about you? Will you accept the call on your life today, or are you going to keep pursuing the mirages this world places in front of you? When will you stop running in circles, searching for the blessings that can only be found in the Lord? You are here for a reason and a season. Don't let your time expire with you having done nothing but taken up precious time and space in this world. What if God were to grade our lives, and our acceptances into Heaven were based on the grades we'd received in the earth? What if those grades were dependent on our assignments? How many "incomplete" Christians would find themselves in the fiery pits of hell because they weren't ready for the pop-quizzes

that life threw at them? How many Christians would fail to see life the way God designed them to see life, only to end up blinded by the opportunities this world offers them, opportunities that were nothing more than elevators designed to take them down into the bottomless pit? We've got to understand that we are not in this earth to enjoy our lives and then die. We are here for a purpose, but to many, earth will be nothing more than their extended vacations from hell because they want nothing to do with God or the assignment He's given them. They've come to love the world and all it has to offer, not understanding that this world has nothing permanent to offer. I've got a purpose and you've got a purpose, but only the person who lives in that purpose will inherit the blessings of God. Anyone who steps outside of purpose to pursue the things of this world estranges himself or herself from God. James 4:4: Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Don't chase the things of this world, and don't become some man or woman's entertainment buddy. Get up and be who you are designed to be. The amazing thing is...the people who actually step out on faith and ask God for their assigned roles in the earth are the same people who will discover the success, peace, prosperity, health, and wholeness that resides on the inside of them. They will learn to tap into what most folks work all of their lives to get to. The enemy has perverted the minds of many so that they will seek the blessings of God in man's hands, when the blessings of God reside in their own hearts. Seek the Kingdom of God, and seek to do the will of God, and you will discover the full potential of who God designed you to be, and that's more than can be said for the average believer. The truth is...the average believer will only tap into ten percent of their full potential because fear will lock them into a mindset, and familiarity will teach them the ropes of that mindset. People who are comfortable in their ways of thinking are people who aren't willing to move to new heights of thinking because new knowledge is offensive and intimidating to them. Don't let that be you. Today, ask God who you are in Him, and ask Him to give you a heart to accept His assignment for you. Ask Him to give you your assignment, and ask Him to keep you as you pursue His will for you. He wants you to want for yourself what He wants for you, and then, He wants you to ask Him for His will to be done in your life. When you do this, He knows that you trust Him or you're trying to learn to trust Him, and He'll begin to guide you into new knowledge. Once you discover your purpose in the earth, and you accept the call God has placed on your life, you will become the unstoppable force God has designed you to be. That's when you won't have to hoop and holler to call down the blessings of God from Heaven because you will be a blessing, and one blessing always attracts another.

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