

What Are You Doing with Your Life?

(Acts 13:36; Eph. 1:9-10;
Rom. 8:19-23)



This message is about discovering your life purpose.
But, instead of asking, “What is God’s purpose for my life?”,
we’ll ask a more tangible question.

How can I serve God’s purpose with my life?

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*** We serve God’s purpose with our lives
by using our God-given platforms to call people back to God
as we continue to trust Him, walk with Him, and glorify Him.**

3

1. Serve God’s purpose with your actions in life (Ac 13:36)

- It’s more than mere thoughts or good intention. It’s serving God’s purpose with our actions in life. King David served God’s purpose, not his own.
- **Trust God** (1Sam. 17:34-37) – David trusted God when fighting lions, bears, and Goliath. Trust God for His words, His love, His character, His instructions to be good for us, . . . etc.
- **Walk with God** – Walk with God within His parameter & boundary in order for us to build relationship with Him (e.g. The 10 Commandments). David was a man after God’s own heart. His psalms show us his relationship with God.
- **Glorify God** (1Sam. 17:26, 45-47) – David fought Goliath for God’s glory, not anyone else’s. Even for the everyday basic things in life, we do it for the glory of God, including our worship of Him (1Cor. 10:31).
- Before discovering any big life purpose, mission, or calling from God, each of us must first learn to trust God, walk with God, and glorify God.

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Acts 13:36

³⁶ For David, after serving God's purpose in his own generation, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and decayed, ³⁷ but the one God raised up did not decay.

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1Samuel 17:26

²⁶ David spoke to the men who were standing with him: "What will be done for the man who kills that Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Just who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

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1Samuel 17:34-37

³⁴ David answered Saul, "Your servant has been tending his father's sheep. Whenever a lion or a bear came and carried off a lamb from the flock, ³⁵ I went after it, struck it down, and rescued the lamb from its mouth. If it reared up against me, I would grab it by its fur, strike it down, and kill it. ³⁶ Your servant has killed lions and bears; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God." ³⁷ Then David said, "The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine."

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1Samuel 17:45-47

⁴⁵ David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with a sword, spear, and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD of Armies, the God of the ranks of Israel—you have defied him. ⁴⁶ Today, the LORD will hand you over to me. Today, I'll strike you down, remove your head, and give the corpses of the Philistine camp to the birds of the sky and the wild creatures of the earth. Then all the world will know that Israel has a God, ⁴⁷ and this whole assembly will know that it is not by sword or by spear that the LORD saves, for the battle is the LORD's. He will hand you over to us."

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1. Serve God's purpose with your actions in life (Ac 13:36)

2. Serve God's purpose & God's purpose for this generation (Ac 13:36; Matt 16:18; Eph 1:9-10; Rom 8:19-23)

- Again, it's God's purpose, not David's nor our personal purposes.
- A 2-layer purpose
 - **Generation-specific purpose** – (1) For David's generation, a theocratic kingdom & preparing a royal line for Jesus Christ. (2) For today's generation, building Christ's church through witness Jesus Christ (Matt. 16:18).
 - **Eternal purpose** – To restore (consummate) all physical creation to Himself through Christ. (see chart below)

1. God created all things

- God submitted His physical creation under the authority and care of Adam and Eve (mankind). (Gen. 1:26-27)



2. Mankind & All Creation

-- To trust God, walk with God, & glorify God as God's caretaker of God's creation

- In caring and overseeing God's creation, Man (mankind) was to trust God, walk with God, and glorify God.
- However, Man sinned and fell under God's judgment. All creation was also cursed and fell under God's judgment since it was subjected to Man (Gen. 3:17-18; Rom. 8:20). All creation has been waiting for redemption/salvation ever since (Rom. 8:21-23).

4. God's Eternal Purpose

-- Restore all creation to Himself in Christ



3. Mankind & All Creation

-- To trust God, walk with God, & glorify God as God's creation



2. All Believers (Israel & the Church)

-- To trust God, walk with God, & glorify God in Christ calling the world back to God



1. Individual Believer

-- To trust God, walk with God, & glorify God in Christ calling the world back to God

- Thus, God's whole creation is finally restored back to God through Christ's redemption since the Fall.
- We as Christ's disciples belong to this big picture of God's eternal purpose! You and I each play an important role in it by calling the world back to God!
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- Once again, God's whole creation (including mankind) will be restored back to God at the return of Christ in His Millennial Kingdom – trusting God, walking with God, and glorifying God. (Eph. 1:9-10; Rom. 8:21-23)
- *****
- God mobilizes all believers as one body to call the world back to Him while trusting Him, walking with Him & glorifying Him as His people (i.e. the nation Israel in the OT, and the church in the NT, cf. 1Pe. 2:9).
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- Immediately after Man sinned, God revealed His salvation plan (Gen. 3:15; Eph. 1:4-5).
- By believing in Christ, each believer is saved and restored back to God one person at a time.
- Each believer trusts God, walks with God, and glorifies God in Christ as he/she continues to call the world back to God by witnessing Christ.

Matthew 16:18

¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

Genesis 1:26-27

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image;
he created him in the image of God;
he created them male and female.

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Genesis 3:17-18

¹⁷ And he said to the man, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'Do not eat from it': The ground is cursed because of you. You will eat from it by means of painful labor all the days of your life.

¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ You will eat bread by the sweat of your brow until you return to the ground, since you were taken from it. For you are dust, and you will return to dust."

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Romans 8:19-23 (CSB)

¹⁹ For the creation eagerly waits with anticipation for God's sons to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility — not willingly, but because of him who subjected it — in the hope ²¹ that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage to decay into the glorious freedom of God's children. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together with labor pains until now. ²³ Not only that, but we ourselves who have the Spirit as the firstfruits — we also groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

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Ephesians 1:9-10 (CSB)

⁹ He made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he purposed in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the right time — to bring everything together in Christ, both things in heaven and things on earth in him.

Ephesians 1:9-10 (ESV)

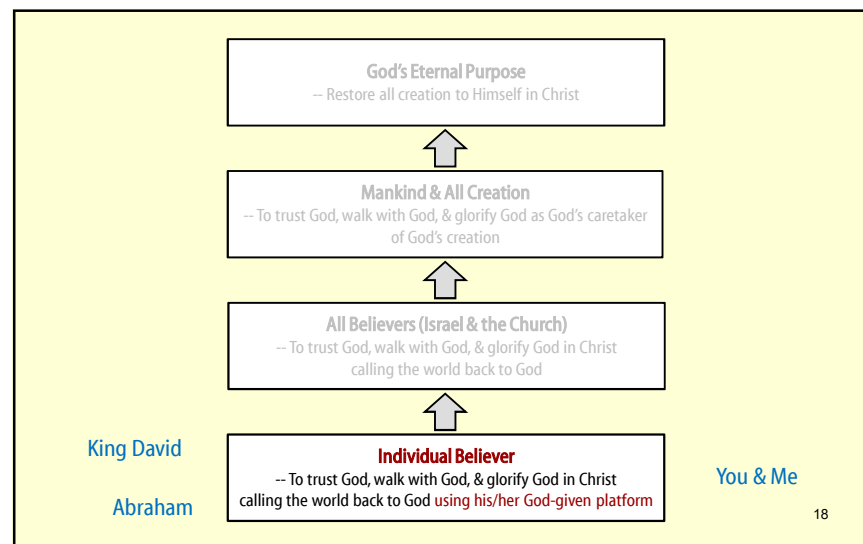
⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

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1. Serve God's purpose with your actions in life (Ac 13:36)
2. Serve God's purpose & God's purpose for this generation (Ac 13:36; Matt 16:18; Eph 1:9-10; Rom 8:19-23)

3. Serve God's purpose with your God-given platform(s)

- Every believer of Christ should use the platform(s) (and spiritual gift) that God has given him/her to bring people back to God through witnessing Christ. This is where life purpose can be found – serving God's purpose.
- They are to do so while trusting God, walking with God, and glorifying God.
- Your "platform" = the means/your respected channel of communication, the opportunity, the sphere-of-influence, your position, etc. that God has given you to make a difference in people lives.
- King David's platforms = shepherd boy, King of Israel, poet & musician
- What's yours? e.g. parent, Bible teacher, writer, artist, singer, nurse, counselor, coach, student, accountant, small group leader, engineer, YouTuber, ... etc.?



*** We serve God's purpose with our lives by using our God-given platforms to call people back to God as we continue to trust Him, walk with Him, and glorify Him.**

Sharing & Praying Together

- What are your God-given platform(s) to bring people back to Him through Jesus Christ?
- How can you use it (them)?