

# Living to the Glory of God

## What on earth am I here for?

### 1. Everything starts with God

The search for the purpose of life has puzzled people for thousands of years. They look inside themselves and ask questions like What do I want to be? What should I do with my life? What are my goals or my dreams for the future? Focusing on ourselves will never reveal the purpose of life. The Bible gives us an answer:

*Col 1:16 For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels--everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him. (MSG)*

*Col 1.16*

*16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. (NIV)*

- You were made by God and for God – and until you understand that, life will never make sense.

The following verses give us insight into the purpose of life.

*Eph 1:11 It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, (MSG)*

*Eph 1.11-12*

*11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,*

*12 in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. (NIV)*

The three insights are:

1. Your identity and purpose of life is discovered in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
2. God was thinking of you long before you ever thought about him. He planned your life before you existed.
3. You were created to be someone that glorifies God!

### 2. You are not an accident

*Isa 44:2 GOD who made you has something to say to you; the God who formed you in the womb wants to help you. Don't be afraid, dear servant Jacob, Jeshurun, the one I chose. (MSG)*

Psalm 139 also tells us that we have been planned, created and wonderfully made by God. The days of our life are written in God's book.

#### Question:

I know that God uniquely created me. What areas of my personality, family, background and physical appearance am I struggling to accept?

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**3. What drives your life?**

Everyone’s life is driven by something, something that guides, controls or directs his life. Some are driven by fear. Name a few things that people might be afraid of:

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Some are driven by the love of money. Some are driven by the need of respect and recognition of other people. Some are driven by what their “lain” or others expect of them.

**Question:**

What would my family and friends say is the driving force of my life? What do I want it to be?

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**4. You are made to last forever**

The Bible teaches us that you were made to last forever. God has set eternity in our hearts.

*Ecc 3.11*

*11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.*

You will spend far more on the other side of death – in eternity – than you will here. This life is preparation for the next. When you live in light of eternity, your values change.

*1John 2.17*

*17 And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God live forever.*

*Heb 13.14*

*14 For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.*

**5. Life on earth is a test, a trust and a temporary assignment**

***Life is a Test.***

Adam and Eve were tested in the Garden of Eden. Abraham was tested when God asked him to offer his son. Joseph was tested by the wife of Potiphar. As a result of his faithfulness to God he was thrown into prison. He probably felt that God had deserted him, but remained faithful to God. A very important test is how you act when you can’t feel god’s presence in your life.

*2 Chr 32.31*

*31 But when envoys were sent by the rulers of Babylon to ask him about the miraculous sign that had occurred in the land, God left him to test him and to know everything that was in his heart.*

God left Hezekiah to test him. He wanted to prepare him for more responsibility. When you understand that life is a test, you realize that nothing is insignificant in your life. Character is both developed and revealed by tests, and all of life is a test.

*James 1.12*

*12 Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.*

**Question:**

What has happened to me recently that I now realize was a test from God?

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**Life is a Trust.**

Our time on earth and our energy, intelligence, opportunities, relationships, and resources are all gifts from God that he has entrusted to our care and management. We are stewards of whatever God gives us.

Everything belongs to God.

*Psalms 24.1*

*1 The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;*

*2 for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters.*

God entrusted the care of his creation to Adam and Eve. He has entrusted this to us as well.

*1 Co 4.7*

*7 For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?*

*1 Co 4.2*

*2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.*

*Lk 16.11*

*11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?*

**Question:**

What are the greatest matters God has entrusted to me?

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**Life is a temporary assignment.**

David prayed:

*Psa 39:4 "Teach me, O LORD, about the end of my life. Teach me about the number of days I have left so that I may know how temporary my life is." (GW)*

The Bible repeatedly compares life on earth to temporarily living in a foreign country. This earth is not our permanent home. We're just passing through. Earth is not our final home; we were created for something much better. A pastor once said that you will not be in heaven two seconds before you cry out, "Why did I place so much importance on things that were so temporary?"

*2 Cor 4.18*

*18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.*

**Question:**

What are some of the things people around us pay much attention to?

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What are things that have eternal value?

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What am I focusing my life on?

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## **6. How you can bring glory to God**

The ultimate goal of the universe is to show the glory of God. It is the reason for everything that exists, including you.

*Rom 11:36 Everything is from him and by him and for him. Glory belongs to him forever! Amen!*

*Isa 43:7 I want them back, every last one who bears my name, every man, woman, and child Whom I created for my glory, yes, personally formed and made each one.*

Living for God's glory is the greatest achievement we can accomplish with our lives.

Jesus prayed the following: "I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do" (John 17.4).

We will now look at five ways we can bring glory to God:

1. We bring God glory by worshiping Him.
2. We bring God glory by loving other believers.
3. We bring God glory by becoming like Christ.
4. We bring God glory by serving others with our gifts.
5. We bring God glory by telling others about him.

The enemy of God, Satan, was once a majestic angel that brought glory to God. He wanted to be like God and take the glory of God, which is why God cast him out of heaven and prepared a place of eternal punishment for him.

You are created to bring glory to God and Satan will do everything to stop you from bringing glory to God.

### **Biography:**

Warren Rick, *The Purpose Driven Life*, 2002, Zondervan  
NIV Study Bible, 1985, Zondervan Publishing House