

God has a purpose and plan for your life. It's time to let your purpose shine!

Christ Jesus had a unique purpose. **Luke 4:43 "... for this purpose I have been sent."** (NKJ)

Jesus came for a purpose and He filled us with resurrection life to live on purpose.

Jesus' purpose never stopped. It's just being fulfilled through you and me. Remember Jesus said, Lo I am with you always. The story of Jesus continues as it's lived through everyday people like you and me.

God Working Through Us

In every generation, God has certain divine purposes and goals that He wants to accomplish. He is continually looking for men and women through whom He can accomplish those goals. History bears this out.

Samson The angel said to Samson's mother (Manoah's wife, a barren woman)

Judges 13:5 You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and his hair must never be cut. For he will be dedicated to God as a Nazirite from birth. He will begin to rescue Israel from the Philistines. (NLT)

Jeremiah The Lord to Jeremiah... **Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.**

Isaiah **Isaiah 49:5-6 And now the LORD says—he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength —6 he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."**

Esther Mordecai told Esther... **Esther 4:14 For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"**

John the Baptist **Luke 1:16-17 He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."**

Luke 1:76-77 And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, ⁷⁷ to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins,

Paul **Acts 9:15-16 But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."**

Later, Paul would tell King Agrippa: Acts 26:19 "So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven.

When our lives draw to an end, I hope we will have the assurance that Paul had concerning his mission in life.

2 Timothy 4:6-7 For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ^{v7} I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Jesus Luke 2:40 And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him. (Jesus had to grow in His mind and spirit just like we do.)

Even as a child, Jesus began to receive understanding and learn of His destiny from the Scriptures (He could even teach the teachers, Luke 2:46-47). Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. **Luke 2:52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.**

- Jesus knew His job description or function. **Luke 4:18-19 “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”**
- Jesus knew and understood what His purpose was. **Luke 4:43 “I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent..”**
- Jesus knew what was written about the Son of Man (Mark 9:22;14:22; Luke 22:37; John 13:1).
 - (Like Jesus, the Scriptures will also be our main avenue to find our mission in life too.)
- Jesus completed His mission. **John 17:4 I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do.**

Other People William Booth / Billy Graham / MLK / Mother Teresa / People You Know

What About Us?

Some might say, *“Aren’t the above-named people special? Doesn’t God only use ‘special’ people?”* You are special, and you have a specific purpose that God wants you to accomplish.

Every believer is a minister!

1. Believers are being transformed to be like Jesus Christ. (Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18, Galatians 4:19; Ephesians 4:13-15)
2. We have been given the same mission and are sent like Jesus was sent. (John 20:21)
3. We have been given the same power to accomplish that mission—the power of the Holy Spirit.
4. Jesus lives in us. (Galatians 2:20)
5. We are supposed to do the very same works Jesus did and even greater works. (John 14:12)

Jesus was a world changer and an influencer. To the degree that we let Jesus live and work through us, without hindrance, He will have the same kind of influence through us that He had when He walked the earth.

- God’s plan is not built around your ability. It’s built around His ability.
 - It’s not built around what you can do, but around what God can do through you.
- God’s plan for you is not based on your resources, but the resources of God.
- When you say that God can’t use you, do you doubt your ability or God’s ability?

**GOD HAS A MISSION OR PURPOSE THAT IS UNIQUE FOR YOUR LIFE.
You will never find lasting satisfaction apart from it.**

DANGER: The further we go into the series, “Shine On Purpose,” you may feel something starting to build within you, something that I call “Godly Discontentment.”

These teachings are going to shake you up and stir your soul, causing you to desire more.

You will begin to want to be what God wants you to be. That will cause change in your life, requiring you to leave your comfort zones. It may even cause you some heartache or pain.

BUT it is well worth it. There is no better way to live. There is no greater fulfillment. There is no truer joy than to live your life according to God’s plan and divine destiny for your life.

Destiny Realities

Your Destiny Was Prepared Beforehand.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

These good works are representative of the destiny and mission God has for your life. Your purpose to shine is the "good works" that you are called to do and should be doing.

Your Destiny Has an Expected End.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." Jeremiah 29:11 (KJV)

- God's purpose and mission for you is expected to accomplish a certain task.

Webster defines mission as: 1) a sending out or being sent out with authority to perform a special duty 2) the special task for which a person is apparently destined in life; the calling.

Your Destiny Will Be Reviewed.

2 Corinthians 5:9-10 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. **10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Having a sense of our destiny, having a God-given vision, and knowing our mission in life will help us do "the good things" that God has for our lives.

I want to be able to say what Paul said,

Acts 26:19 "So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven.

Fulfilling Your Destiny Will Bring Glory to God.

John 17:4 I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do.

Your Destiny Can Be Discovered.

God has promised to teach you in the way you should go.

Psalms 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in **the way** you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Paul's prayer was that believers would be **filled with the knowledge of His (God's) will**.

Colossians 1:9-10 We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, **10** so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and **please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work...**

Next Step: This week, with the Lord's help, I will begin a quest to discover my purpose and fulfill my destiny.

Next Step: Today I commit to fully engage in this series and attend every week, so that I can begin to SHINE ON PURPOSE.