



Purpose Over Perspective

Date: July 5, 2026

Key Verse: *"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose."*
— Romans 8:28

Icebreaker

Think back on a difficult season in your life.

At the time, you probably wished it would end immediately. Looking back now, can you see anything God accomplished through that season?

Sermon Recap

Our perspective is limited by what we can currently see, but God's purpose extends far beyond our present circumstances.

Throughout Scripture we see that God often allows seasons of pruning, storms, and waiting—not to harm us, but to prepare us. While we naturally ask, "Why is this happening?" God invites us to ask a better question:

"Lord, what are You producing in me?"

Three truths remind us that God's purpose is always greater than our perspective:



- God is working in you.
 - God is walking with you.
 - God is working for you.
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Read Together

- John 15:1–11
 - James 1:2–4
 - Matthew 14:22–33
 - Romans 8:28
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Discussion Questions

1. God Is Working In You

Read John 15:1–2.

Jesus says that every fruitful branch is pruned.

- Why do you think God prunes those who are already bearing fruit?
 - Have you experienced a season that felt like "pruning"? Looking back, what fruit came from it?
 - What is the difference between seeing pruning as punishment versus preparation?
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2. God Is Walking With You

Read Matthew 14:22–33.

Jesus sent the disciples into the storm before He came walking to them.

- Why is it significant that Jesus intentionally sent them into the storm?
 - Peter began sinking when his focus shifted from Jesus to the wind. What "winds" tend to steal your focus today?
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3. God Is Working For You

Read Romans 8:28.

This verse does **not** say everything that happens is good—it says God works through everything for our good.

- Have you ever seen God redeem a painful situation over time?
 - What part of your story feels unfinished right now?
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Read James 1:2–4.

James says trials produce perseverance, maturity, and completeness.

- Which of those qualities do you think God is developing most in you right now?