



WHAT ON EARTH AM I HERE FOR? – August 27, 2017  
Pastor Shannon Chapman

*Today we begin a church journey together. We are praying that over the next couple of weeks we all commit to a holy pursuit of God and His purposes for us.*

Ephesians 5:15-17, Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.

## **Don’t Waste Your Life**

What does God want from me? MY WHOLE LIFE

- *Romans 6:13, ... give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.*
- C.S. Lewis, “The only thing Christianity cannot be is marginally important.”

What does it take? DISCIPLINE

- *1 Timothy 4:7, ...Train (discipline) yourself for godliness.*
- Discipline is doing what is difficult now to enjoy the benefits later.
- *Hebrews 12:1, ...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.*

Why should I do it? THE CROSS

- *2 Corinthians 5:15, He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.*
- Jesus gave himself up completely for you.
- *Ephesians 1:7, He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins.*
- If God never did another thing for you, you owe Him your life for this.

- - - -

As we start this journey together as a church we will quickly be reminded that living for ourselves is empty and that we were made for connection with God.

## **Life's Greatest Questions**

### **1. Question of Existence: WHY AM I ALIVE?**

- The prophet Jeremiah asked this question over 2,600 years ago.
- *Jeremiah 20,18, Why was I ever born? My entire life has been filled with trouble, sorrow, and shame.*

#### Where do a lot of people look to find purpose?

- New Age - look inside yourself
- Self-help - that success ultimately brings purpose

A life without purpose is pointless; it is a life not worth living.

The BEST place, in fact it's the only place, to look for purpose is from God.

- Proverbs 16:4, The *Lord* has made everything for his own purposes.
- God created you to be the object of His love!
- Ephesians 1:4, For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

## 2. Question of Significance: DOES MY LIFE MATTER?

- *Isaiah 49:4, “But my work seems so useless! I have spent my strength for nothing and to no purpose. Yet I leave it all in the Lord’s hand; I will trust God for my reward.”*

Every human is living on one of three levels:

- Survival Level – just getting by daily
- Success – you think, “I have finally made it.”
- Significance – where you find true meaning and purpose

Significance comes as you know the meaning of life...knowing how much you matter to God, and ultimately how to live out your God given purpose daily.

- Life is preparation for eternity; this is the ultimate purpose of life.
- Psalm 33:11, But his plans endure forever; his purposes last eternally.

## 3. Question of Intention: WHAT IS MY PURPOSE?

Psalm 89:47, Why did you create us? For nothing?

You will discover the purpose of life when you decide to talk to the creator of life (God) and decide to read the owner’s manual (the Bible).

God says, that I find my purpose in Him.

- *Colossians 1:16, For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible...all things have been created through him and for him.*

No matter where you are at on your Spiritual journey – Seeker, Starter, Stumbler, Spiritually Mature, this opportunity is available to you today.

*Acts 10:35, It makes no difference who you are or where you're from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open. (Msg)*