



DISCOVER PURPOSE | PETE CAMPBELL

What To Do When You're Running on Empty

Matthew 19:16-22 NLT

INTRODUCTION | Band plays softly underneath... Welcome | Engage Audience

You were made on purpose for a purpose... I am here for a reason.

Matthew 19:16-22 NLT

16 Someone came to Jesus with this question: "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?"

17 "Why ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. But to answer your question—if you want to receive eternal life, keep the commandments. **18** "Which ones?" the man asked.

And Jesus replied: "You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. **19** Honor your father & mother. Love your neighbor as yourself."

20 "I've obeyed all these commandments," the young man replied. "What else must I do?" **21** Jesus told him, "If you want to be perfect, go & sell all your possessions & give the money to the poor & you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." **22** But when the young man heard this, he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

Maybe things are not working for you & you're searching...

ILLUSTRATION | U2 I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For (Band Plays & Pete Sing w/Lyrics)

How can we discover our purpose? | (Bring out Treadmill) Our life journey

Everyone knows the feeling of driving around on empty. Has anyone run out of gas this year? Or have we all converted to electric cars? We all know what the right answer is when it comes to how many miles we have when the light comes on... But the right answer is "No! Stop and get gas!"

Driving around on empty stinks... According to stats & studies, more than 85% of Americans feel like they are running on empty. Stuck, bored, low energy, lack of motivation, hopeless & desperate.

I'm busy but I don't know why... I'm living & I'm breathing but I don't know why or what I'm living for! Does that sound like anyone?

Purpose is Powerful... which is why you feel the lack of it! Purpose is the why that gets you going. It's the why that makes you cry. It makes the good seasons even better, it makes the mundane a little more magical, it makes the hard seasons a little more bearable. It creates an awareness of something greater being out there.

Ephesians 2:10 NLT For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.

God has already determined it... Now it's our time to discover it!

I WAS MADE FOR THIS...

Question: Who did God make me to be?

When I grow up... I want to be a...

When it comes to truly discovering purpose...

You didn't create yourself, therefore you can't tell yourself why you were made...

Matthew 19:16 NLT

He went to Jesus, not to YouTube, social media, his friend circles.

You are a direct product of God's Genius.

Psalm 139:13-14 NLT *You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body & knit me together in my mother's womb.*

14 *Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous - how well I know it.*

God crushed it when he made you!

1 Corinthians 12:6-7 NLT *God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.*

7 *A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.*

All of us are special! There is no other you & we need you. His church needs you.

Comparison kills your purpose.

You make an amazing person when you own it & stop trying to be someone else.

ILLUSTRATION | (Bruno Mars song) "You are amazing, just the way you are!"

I really think that it's not really about the position, the title or the label.

I think we're hungry & full of desire for the fruit of what purpose brings.

I WOULD RATHER FIND MY STRIDE IN LIFE THAN JUST STRIVE FOR IT

Highlight The Mixer... **It is insanity to run from God & search for anything else...**

I'LL BRING MY CHARACTER, YOU BRING THE CALLING

Question: Who am I becoming today?

Future & Calling. We are obsessed with these... This is about **the present & character...**

We are obsessed with **CALLING** & God loves **CHARACTER**

We are obsessed with **INFLUENCE** & God is obsessed with **INTEGRITY**

World looks on the outside, God looks at the heart.

Matthew 19:21

ILLUSTRATION | Video Lightning comes before the thunder... (Leave Audio on briefly but keep video playing to illustrate point)

How are you working on you? Who are you becoming today?

How many lightbulb or Aha moments do we need to have before we actually follow through & do what we need to do?

Some of us we hear God speak something & we're like wow... okay God but give me another one... And another one... But God is like, no I need you to hear me on the first one. Work on that first.

Are you teachable? Do you trust God enough to allow him to lead you?
Will you allow him to set your pace?

The more you level up your character the less you limit God's calling & purpose in your life.

What would it look like for a group of people to actually value integrity over influence?
Are we quick to offer thoughts & opinions when we see that things don't line up in other peoples lives or is our first response to examine ourselves?

Our purpose can be a blessing but also a burden...

Maybe the reason you're searching & searching for purpose but haven't found it yet... is because you haven't allowed God to do the heart work in who you need to become.

What is on your heart? What do you desire? What are the dreams that God has given you?
Those things take time & perseverance to get there...
So what are you doing right now to move one step closer? To take one more stride farther?

What am I good at? What am I passionate about?
How can I get so good with the gifts that God has given me?

What's the lightening that you're making before the thunder? Do you have a stack of aha moments that God has used to get your attention but you haven't acted on it yet?

THIS IS MY PURPOSE

Question to Ask: What would Jesus do if He were me?

Matthew 19:20

Lose yourself & follow me then you will find everything you are looking for.

Matthew 19:22

This story is found in Matthew, Mark & Luke... Repetition tells us something.
You don't have to go away sad like this man did. If you have, there's more for you!

Be with Jesus, Become like Jesus & Do what Jesus would do if He were me..

Know God, Find Freedom & Discover Purpose.

Mary & Martha story...

Mary has chosen the one thing that matters most... To be with God... To know God!

God doesn't need us but we need Him.

Is it just me, or does it seem like the church is just a collection of a bunch of people who are just trying to do, do, do & accomplish this & this just for God?

Discovering your purpose is not always found in the physical things you do.



You are here to show us what Jesus looks like!

You're not just an employee for a tech company. You're not just a parent. You're not just a retiree who played golf all the time but one who prioritized Jesus and was a living example of what it looked like to live for something more than just themselves.

What if your purpose is more about who you're raising than what you're doing?

ILLUSTRATION | Kid who had to go elsewhere for support but guess what? Your kids won't!

You may have had to enter the world & prove something to everyone else because those closest to you didn't believe or give you the time of day but guess what? Your kids won't!

You may have had to work night & day trying to figure out how to stretch one bag of rice into several meals but your kids won't.

Whatever it is... You have the opportunity today to start new. You have the chance to build something new!

If Jesus were you, this is exactly where He would be...

How can I discover my purpose? How can I know God? How can I live out my purpose because I've found freedom?

The more that you discover your purpose... the why that makes you cry.
The purpose that begins to bring heaven here in the OC.

Purpose is not a destination or a place but a path that you're walking on.

CLOSING | NEXT STEPS | Worship Team Come back

Are you one of the 85% who feels like they're running on empty?

If you've never really gotten to a place to Know God... You don't have to leave here today sad like the rich young ruler. You don't have to find yourself laying down to rest feeling like you're getting back into this wash, rinse & repeat cycle of life. But you can leave here today Knowing that everything will be okay. Knowing that God is in control. Knowing that the searching and the striving can stop!

You don't have to earn it. You don't have to prove anything anymore. You don't have to compete with your comparisons but you can rest in knowing who Jesus is!

Rest in knowing that it's not going to be you who will dictate the pace but it will be Jesus who will help you find your stride!

Do you see it? Do you feel it? Do you see the lightening before the thunder? You don't have to search anymore. You don't have to keep scrolling, you don't have to keep asking... but allow Jesus to know you today!

PURPOSE GROUP

I have to be surrounded by people who are in purpose...

ILLUSTRATION | Apple Device & going to the Apple Store... (PICTURE)

I walk in & now I'm surrounded by a group of Apple support employees. They're called Geniuses. I'm surrounded by a group of people who work for the creator of my device. Now that I'm surrounded by people who are working for the creator, they will not only help me with my problem but will show me things that I didn't know.

I need to hang around people who are in purpose. When you understand the value of your purpose you start picking people on purpose. You'll work with a purpose. You'll read with purpose. You'll listen to podcasts with purpose. You'll work out with purpose. You'll date with a purpose... You'll parent your kids with a purpose. You'll love your spouse with purpose. You'll give of your time & your money with purpose. You'll serve with purpose... You'll love with Purpose.

Everything will be centered around the one who gave you purpose!

This means I have to surround myself with other people who have the connection as well... I need community. I need relationship. I need to know the Creator! The one who formed me.

The reason we feel like we're on life support is because we haven't connected with the one who Knows everything about you.

God help us to rid ourselves of everything that we have in order for us to thrive in what you have for us.

Purpose solves problems... and when I die certain problems will no longer exist because I've been living with the one who gave me purpose!

I WOULD RATHER FIND MY STRIDE IN LIFE THAN JUST STRIVE FOR IT

CLOSING PRAYER