

Motivation: Purpose.

(December 11, 2025)

One of the most often quoted verses of the Old Testament must be, “For I know the thoughts I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.” (Jeremiah 29:11) This verse is special to so many, because it speaks to the fact that God has a purpose in mind for each of us...and that His purpose is good. Discovering that purpose, and then walking in it, might be one of the most important tasks in living a meaningful life.

In the next three weekly messages, we want to lean into the motivation of moving toward and attaining our intended and desired future. To do that, we want to consider the purpose, mission, and vision of our lives. Purpose speaks to the “why” of life that motivates us to a specific action. Mission details “how” we intend to take action along the way. And vision speaks to “what” kind of life we envision living as a result of those actions. All three are important in helping us experience the future God has in store for us.

First, let us consider purpose.

Simon Sinek, in his book “Start With Why,” defines our purpose as the core belief or value that drives our goals and actions. Our purpose is the reason that inspires us to do something, even when it demands great sacrifice. It is literally “why” we get out of bed in the morning.

Your “why” is built into how God designed you and will inform who He has created you to be. Your “why” is your authentic self; it is literally “who you are.” The more clearly you can understand and articulate your “why,” the easier it will be to communicate yourself to others and create meaningful, engaged, and loyal relationships. Doing work that aligns with your “why” will connect you to a purpose that goes beyond the work itself. And your “why” will help you make sense of the suffering and frustration that drive so many to despair. Your “why” impacts every area of your life.

In “Man’s Search for Meaning,” Viktor Frankl wrote, “Those who have a ‘why’ to live, can bear with almost any ‘how.’” Purpose generates hope. God intends to give us a future and a hope.