

I. Series Introduction

A. Purpose Defined

1. The reason for which something exists.
2. The reason why we do the things we do.
3. Our intention or objective.

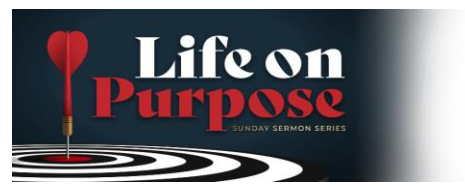
B. The Significance of Purpose

1. Purpose consists of the central motivating aims in our life.

- a. What are you aiming for?
- b. If you aim at nothing, you will hit it every time. Zig Zigler
- c. Aim high, you may miss your target, but at least you won't shoot your foot off.
- d. It is better to aim high and miss it than to aim low and hit it.
- e. Having an aim is the key to achieving your best.

2. Aim

- a. To point or direct at a target.
- b. To direct a course.
- c. You will never hit the target – if your aim is off.
- d. The birth of this series – “Reset Your Aim!”
I was impressed of the Lord to do an entire series on Purpose – You may need an adjustment – Your aim must be right!

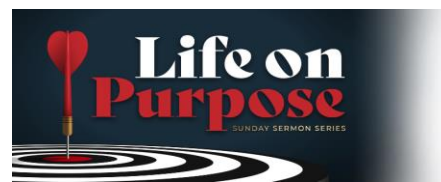


3. Common benefits of Purpose in our life.

- a. Aims my life in a particular direction.
- b. Guides my life’s decisions.
- c. Influences by behaviors.
- d. Shapes my future goals.
- e. Offers me a sense of direction.
- f. Once I discover my “Purpose Path”, I can stay on course to be what I am supposed to be and do what I am supposed to do.
There is great fulfillment in that.

4. Finding Purpose in life has become a difficult task for many.

- a. The difference in having a life of purpose that is aimed – is to have a life lacking in aim = AIMLESS!
- b. AIMLESS = without purpose or direction
How many people are living life with no purpose or direction for life?
- c. Words associated with AIMLESS
pointless – goalless – undirected, unfocused – senseless – meaningless
- d. Wandering
*Traveling aimlessly from place to place.
Many have become wanderers – a person who travels aimlessly.*



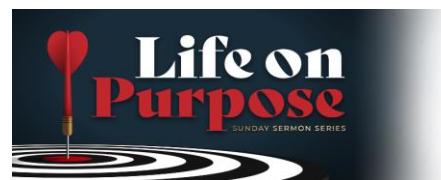
5. Medical Science endorses the physical effects of having purpose in your life.

- a. 2009 study – 73,000 Japanese men and women
Those who have a strong sense of purpose tended lived longer than those who didn't.
- b. A 2014 study of centenarians – identified that one of the common factors that people living over 100 shares is having a **STRONG SENSE OF PURPOSE**. *Having a strong sense of purpose appears to widely buffer against mortality risk across the adult years.*
- c. A 2008 study found that lower level of purpose in men may be associated with earlier death and cardiovascular disease.
- d. Dr. Patricia Boyle – “Rush Alzheimer’s Disease Center in Chicago” found that people with low sense of life purpose were 2.4 times more likely to get Alzheimer’s disease than those with strong purpose.
- e. A study of 1,000 adults found that a high sense of meaning/ purpose led to better relationships with loved ones and community.
- f. Shell Oil – A study of retired employees found that men and women who retired early (Age 55), were more likely to die early than those who retired at 65. *A similar study of 17,000 Greeks showed that the risk of death increased 51% after retirement.*

NOTE: If your purpose was wrapped in your career – you need to readjust and find another purpose for living once you retire.

- g. Purpose offers definite physical, emotional and psychological benefits.

PERSONAL NOTE: As a person overcoming blood cancer, I believe that faith and attitude played a huge role in my healing/recovery process. While there are many reports from the past that suggest



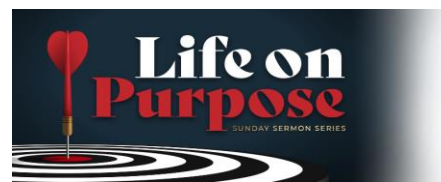
attitude has no effect on the outcome when dealing with cancer, many recent reports prove the opposite.

A report involving interviews with 26 long-term survivors of ovarian cancer (23 with advanced disease), investigators noted that these individuals “had a strong life purpose, which manifested as positivity, taking charge of their lives and advocating for themselves.”

II. Wired for Purpose

A. When God created the human race, He created you for purpose.

- 1. You are wired for that! You are made for that!**
- 2. In creation, He designed you to follow purpose throughout your life.**
- 3. God did not create anyone to live an AIMLESS life.**
- 4. Genesis 1:26-28 (NKJV) – ²⁶Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.
 - a. God gave Adam and Eve purpose for their daily life.
 - *Be fruitful and multiply*
 - *Fill the earth and subdue it*
 - *Have dominion*
 - b. **Genesis 2:15 (NKJV)** – *Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.***



Tend and Keep – CEV – to take care of it and to look after it.

- c. God never placed them on earth to wander aimlessly doing nothing. *This would be a depressed life!*
- d. God created them “Wired them” for daily purpose.
When Adam and Eve awakened each new day – they had purpose for living – purpose for getting up – purpose for getting started.
- e. Whenever we fail to do – or participate in things that God wired us for – disorder takes over.

When a person attempts to live life PURPOSELESS = AIMLESS – disorder takes over – effecting their mind, emotions, and body.

- f. A life without purpose is a life that is missing something.
When something is missing – we never experience our full potential – full joy – full peace – full strength – fulfillment!

B. Jesus was wired for purpose!

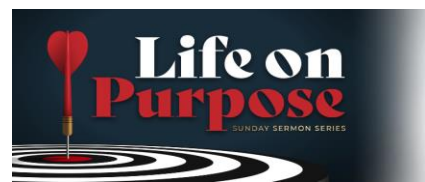
1. His life was never aimless – never wandering – never drifting.

2. Jesus lived with purpose in mind every day.

- a. He had something specific to AIM for.
- b. He had a target in mind.
- c. He never lost sight of his goal.

3. The purpose statement of Jesus

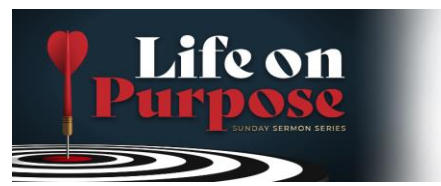
- a. **Matthew 28:20 (AMP)** – *just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many [paying the price to set them free from the penalty of sin]*



- b. **Hebrews 12:1-2 (AMP)** – ¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who by faith have testified to the truth of God’s absolute faithfulness], stripping off every unnecessary weight and the sin which so easily and cleverly entangles us, let us run with endurance and active persistence the race that is set before us, ²[looking away from all that will distract us and] focusing our eyes on Jesus, who is the Author and Perfector of faith [the first incentive for our belief and the One who brings our faith to maturity], who for the joy [of accomplishing the goal] set before Him endured the cross, disregarding the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God [revealing His deity, His authority, and the completion of His work].
- Jesus ran the race that was set before him.
 - Jesus looked away from anything that would distract him from his goal- his purpose.
 - The Joy of fulfillment connected to His purpose – empowered and enabled Jesus to keep moving forward.
- c. **Jesus is an example to us of living life on purpose – how purpose takes our life forward.**
- Discovering our purpose – is to discover the race that is set before us – everyone has a unique race.
 - We must look away from everything that will distract us from our purpose if we are to reach the intended goal.
 - The JOY of fulfillment – keeps us on course!

4. The Apostle Paul understood the power of purpose.

- a. **Philippians 3:14 (HCSB)** – I pursue as my goal the prize promised by God’s heavenly call in Christ Jesus
Paul – My life is aimed – toward the prize promised – in God’s heavenly – call = PURPOSE
- b. Paul fulfilled His purpose
2 Timothy 4:7 (KJV) – *I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:*



- c. Purpose empowered Paul.
 - Carry out his mission of spreading the gospel.
 - To endure prison.
 - To endure punishments.
 - To endure criticism.
 - To endure hardship.
 - To overcome adversity.
 - To stay strong.
 - To stay in health.

III. Closing Thoughts

A. Jesus spent his earthly ministry restoring purpose and call in the lives of people.

1. When people encountered Jesus – they never left his presence feeling AIMLESS – or unfulfilled.
2. Zacchaeus was a tax collector until his encounter with Jesus.
Once he met Jesus – His purpose for life changed! I will restore seven-fold what I have taken from any man.
3. The woman at the well – dropped her water pots – lost sight of her purpose in coming to the well – and immediately found a new purpose – spreading the news about Jesus.

B. We were never created – for aimless living.

If God is going to restore order to our lives) – it will include resetting our purpose.

1. We can never be who we are supposed to be until we embrace purpose.
2. We can never be ALL that we can be – without purpose.
3. Everyone can find purpose. *Example – My mother’s story*