

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 10-18-26
Christianity 103 – Message 9 Part 6
We Have a New Purpose and Direction for Life

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) Ananias, a faithful Jewish believer, living a life surrendered to the Lord.
- 2) Saul received his sight and began to preach.
- 3) The importance of discipleship is evident in this story of Saul.
- 4) The change in Saul's life was evident.
- 5) In Jerusalem the disciples were afraid of Saul.
- 6) Barnabas came alongside Saul and helped to validate his story.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) Verses 29-30 enable us to see a radical change in the Purpose and Direction of Saul's life.
- 2) After my salvation, I wrestled with what came next.
- 3) I want to walk you through two important words: purpose and direction.

c. Something I think about often:

- 1) II Corinthians 5:17 –
 - a) "new creation" – not just the individual person but a whole new situation.
 - b) "old things" – things that characterized your pre-Christian life.
 - c) "are passed away" – has come to an end; they are finished and gone.
 - d) "all things become new" – all things are new, things that previously did not exist.
- 2) II Corinthians 5:14-15 –
 - a) Jesus died that we might die to sin.
 - b) Jesus died that we might live, not to ourselves, but for Him.
 - c) Jesus died and rose from the grave for us.
 - d) "live unto themselves" – moving from living to please ourselves to living to please Him.

2. Answering the Purpose and Direction Question

a. Some do not know where to look

- 1) Why did God create me? Why am I here? Why do I exist?
 - a) You didn't create yourself, so there is no way you can tell yourself what you were created for.
 - b) Only the Creator can reveal your purpose.

b. What is God's Purpose for this life He has given me?

- 1) God created you!
- 2) Understanding God's purpose for your life begins first with knowing Him.
- 3) When God said that He loved the world –
 - a) John 3:16 –
- 4) When God said His Son would be the perfect, satisfying sacrifice –
 - a) I John 2:1-2 –
- 5) When God said that His promises are sure –
 - a) II Peter 3:9 –
- 6) Why does God love you so much?

c. What is God's Purpose for this life that He has given me as His child?

- 1) Purpose answers the question of intention and design.
- 2) God's Purpose for our lives:
 - a) To know Him - from the beginning, man's purpose was to have a relationship with God.
 - b) To go and make Him known.

- 3) Our Vision – To Know Christ and to Make Him Known!
 - a) The gospel has come to us so that we, who know Him, can go and make Him known.
- 4) How can I discover God's Direction for this life He has given me?
 - a) Some people ask this question in a different way.
- d. What is God's Direction for this new life He has given me?
 - 1) How did Adam know what he was supposed to do?
 - 2) The answer to this question will come from God's Word, the leading of His Spirit, a godly person, or a situation in your life that opens your eyes to God's direction for your life.
 - 3) Purpose is the principle, while Direction is your personal application of that principle.
 - a) While Purpose answers the question of why, Direction answers the question of what.
 - 4) When thinking about Direction, ask a few questions.
- e. Where do I start?
 - 1) First, make sure you understand your Purpose.
 - 2) Second, as you walk in obedience moment by moment, God will reveal His Direction for your life, and then you are to follow it.
 - 3) Will God change my Direction from time to time?
 - 4) If a believer doesn't understand their Purpose, how will they know what Direction to walk in?
 - 5) The Direction you walk is how you live each day but your Purpose gives life to every step you take.
3. Today's Takeaway
 - a. Why share this today?
 - b. Purpose – What was God's intention when He created me?
 - 1) Why am I living?
 - 2) What is my life ultimately for?
 - 3) This never changes!
 - c. Direction – How should I live and what is the direction I should take now?
 - 1) This direction is lived out as you trust God, obey Him, seek wisdom, and make good and faithful choices in every situation you encounter.