**UNLIKELY HEROES** Ordinary Life, Extraordinary Purpose July 22, 2018 "Daily using your ordinary life to live out your extraordinary purpose"

Jesus knows you. Jesus made you. He has <u>a **plan** & a **purpose**</u> for you.

**Ephesians 1:5 TPT** It was always in *His perfect plan* to adopt us as His delightful children, through our union with Jesus,...<u>*This unfolding plan*</u> *brings Him great pleasure!* 

## <u>5 Benefits of Daily Walking In His Purpose & Plan for Your Life</u>

- <u>Gives Meaning to Your Life</u> "The greatest tragedy is not death, but life without God's purpose & plan for your life."
- 2. Simplifies Your Life You have just enough time to do God's will.
- 3. Focuses Your Life We're all busy, but we're not all producing!
- <u>4.</u> <u>Motivates Your Life</u> Purpose produces passion!! (Luke 24:32 AMP ... Were not our hearts greatly moved & burning within us...
- 5. <u>Prepares You for Eternity</u> "You were <u>not</u> put on earth to be remembered. You were put here to prepare for eternity."

**2 Corinthians 4:18b** The things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

Earth is not our ultimate home. Earth life is not the end of the story.

We're not completely happy here because we're not supposed to be! A fish would never be happy living on land, it was made for water. An eagle could never feel satisfied if it wasn't allowed to fly. You'll never feel completely satisfied on earth, you were made for more. Realizing that life on earth is a temporary assignment should radically alter your values. <u>Eternal values</u>, not temporal ones, should become the deciding factors for your daily decisions.

C.S. Lewis wrote, "All that is not eternal is eternally useless."

**1 Peter 2:11** I warn you as <u>"temporary residents & foreigners"</u> keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls.

The <u>Unlikely Heroes</u> of faith aren't those who achieve prosperity & success in this life, but those who treat life as a temporary assignment...

**Hebrews 11:13** All these people died still believing (*in faith*) what God had promised them. They didn't receive what was promised, but they saw it all from a distance & welcomed it. They agreed that they were foreigners & nomads here on earth...**v16** They were looking for a better place, a heavenly homeland...

When life gets tough; when you're overwhelmed with doubt, remember that you're not home yet. At death you won't <u>leave</u> home – you'll <u>go</u> home! <u>To His Glory!</u>

......WE GO TO HIS GLORY! WE LIVE FOR HIS GLORY!.....

**Romans 11:36** For everything comes from Him and exists by His power and is intended for His **glory.** All **glory** to Him forever!

**Psalm 19:1** The heavens proclaim the **glory** of God. The skies display His craftsmanship.

## What is the glory of God?

His **glory** is in all creation. His **glory** is in us. His **glory** is in His church! His **glory** is who He is. His **glory** is the essence of His nature, His life, the radiance of His splendor, His **glory** is the demonstration of His power, the expression of His goodness, & the atmosphere of His presence!!

Proverbs 16:4 The Lord has made everything for His own purposes...

Everything is for Him. Everything & everyone exists for His **glory.** The ultimate purpose of the whole universe is for His **glory**.

**2 Corinthians 4:6** God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts <u>so we could know the glory</u> of God that's seen in the face of Jesus Christ. 7 We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves.

*Jesus is the Light of the world & He illuminates God's nature. Jesus came so we could fully understand* <u>**& experience**</u> *God's* **glory**.

Hebrews 1:3a The Son radiates God's own glory & expresses the very character of God...

*Our purpose* is to <u>recognize</u> His glory, <u>honor</u> His glory, <u>declare</u> His glory, <u>praise</u> His glory, <u>reflec</u>t His glory, & <u>live</u> for His glory!

**John 1:14** The Word became human & made His home among us. He was full of unfailing love & faithfulness. We've seen His **glory**, the **glory** of the Father's one & only Son.

Living in His purposes & plans for our lives gives God glory & is the greatest achievement we can accomplish with our lives.

**Isaiah 43:7** Bring all who claim Me as their God, for I've made them for My **glory**. It was I who created them.

*Jesus honored God by fulfilling His purposes on earth.* John 17:4 I brought *glory* to You here on earth by completing the work You gave me to do.

How can we live out His purpose & bring Him glory? Doing the same thing Jesus did! Complete the purposes He gave us to do. When anything on earth fulfills its purpose, it brings glory to God!

## \*\*5 Ways to Live Out His Purposes & Give GLORY to God\*\*

 <u>Worship Him</u> – Worship is our first responsibility. God wants our worship to be motivated by love & thanksgiving, not duty. Worship is far more than praising, singing, & praying to God. Worship is a lifestyle of enjoying God, loving Him & giving ourselves to be used for His purposes. When you use your life for God's glory, everything you do can become an act of worship.

**Romans 6:13b** ...give yourselves completely to God, you were dead, but now you have new life. Use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the **glory** of God.

<u>2.</u> <u>Love Other Believers</u> – Following Jesus isn't just about believing, it also includes belonging & learning to love the family of God.

**Romans 15:7** Accept each other just as Christ has accepted you; then God will be **glorified**.

It's your responsibility to learn how to love like God loves.

John 13:34 Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.

**<u>3.</u>** <u>Become Like Jesus</u> – Grow to spiritual maturity. Grow in how we think, feel, & act. Develop Christlike character.

**2 Corinthians 3:18** As the Spirit of the Lord works w/in us, we become more & more like Him & reflect His **glory** even more.

God wants us to continue the process of changing our character.

**Philippians 1:11** May you always be filled w/ the fruit of your salvation – those good things that are <u>produced</u> in your life by Jesus – for this will bring much **glory** & praise to God.

<u>4.</u> <u>Serve Others with Our Gifts</u> – We've all been uniquely designed by God w/ talents, gifts, skills, & abilities. Not for selfish purposes, rather to benefit others.

**1 Peter 4:10** God's given gifts to each of you from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Manage them well so that God's generosity can flow through you...<u>11b</u> Do it w/ all the strength & energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus. All **glory** & power to Him forever & ever! Amen.

<u>5.</u> <u>Tell Others About Him</u> – God doesn't want His love & purposes kept a secret. Once we know the truth, He expects us to share it w/ others, help them discover their purpose, & prepare them for eternity.

**2 Corinthians 4:15** ... as God's grace reaches more & more people, there'll be great thanksgiving & God'll receive more & more glory.