

Does Life Have a Purpose?

For the week of Jan. 13, 2019

Full message available at highpoint.church/currentseries

Access Explore God materials at highpoint.church/exploregod

VIDEO 1: PULSE OF THE WORLD ON PURPOSE

This video is a 2.5-minute survey of many people's responses to this question.

Questions for Discussion:

- Did you identify with anyone's expressed views in the film? If so, who and what resonated with you?
- Are you surprised to learn that 85 percent of people are clear about the meaning and purpose of their life (64 percent strongly agree and 21 percent somewhat agree)? Why or why not?

VIDEO 2: THE CURIOSITY COLLECTIVE: DOES LIFE HAVE A PURPOSE?

This is a 10-minute collection of subject matter experts discussing the question "Does life have a purpose?" It displays the various questions, struggles, and perspectives of these individuals regarding this week's topic. See what they have to say and discuss it.

Questions for Discussion:

After watching the video, choose from this list of questions or ask some of your own to facilitate discussion. There's no need to limit your discussion to these questions or to feel pressured to cover all of them in the time you have.

- In what ways can you identify with any of the stories in The Curiosity Collective? What did you find intriguing or compelling?
- In the video, Lysa observed, "If I could just discover the right thing, a better job, financial blessing, the



right person to love me, the right kids with the right accolades, then I'd feel satisfied." In what things have you sought satisfaction? Did they satisfy?

- Can you share both a time when life seemed like a random series of events and a time when it seemed like there was an intentional plan unfolding?
- In what ways might someone's view of eternity affect their sense of meaning and purpose?
- If you believe we all have a purpose, what role does God play in that—if any?

INTO THE BIBLE:

1. What makes life worth it? At the end of the day, it has to be about something bigger than me. If Jesus is your Lord and Savior, you know that knowing, loving, and serving Him brings life true and real meaning. The apostle Paul said it best in Philippians 3:10, "that I may know Him . . ."

To get new eyes on what Paul meant, read Philippians 3:7-11 here in the amplified version:

"But whatever former things were gains to me [as I thought then], these things [once regarded as advancements in merit] I have come to consider as loss [absolutely worthless] for the sake of Christ [and the purpose which He has given my life]. 8 But more than that, I count everything as loss compared to the priceless privilege and supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord [and of growing more deeply and thoroughly acquainted with Him—a joy unequalled]. For His sake I have lost everything, and I consider it all garbage, so that I may gain Christ, 9 and may be found in Him [believing and relying on Him], not having any righteousness of my own derived from [my obedience to] the Law and its rituals, but [possessing] that [genuine righteousness] which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith. 10 And this, so that I may know Him [experientially, becoming more thoroughly acquainted with Him, understanding the remarkable wonders of His Person more completely] and [in that same way experience] the power of His resurrection [which overflows and is active in believers], and [that I may share] the fellowship of His sufferings, by being continually conformed [inwardly into His likeness even] to His death [dying as He did].

What phrases stand out to you?



Why does real purpose begin by putting Jesus at the center of your life?

2. Do you have a life verse? If you don't, consider Galatians 2:20 that describes what your relationship with Jesus as your Savior looks like. Underline or highlight it in your Bible. How does this verse describe our ultimate purpose in life? Can you think of any other verses that would serve well as a life verse?

3. Another verse to underline in your Bible is 1 Corinthians 7:17 that says, “**only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him.**” The life we want to live—really the only life we want to live—is the one God has mapped out for us. That includes seeing, choosing, acting, deciding, taking hold of life, and living your life on purpose. That's what this series, Explore God, is all about. What freedom do you see in 1 Corinthians 7:17? Why does this truth give us a foundation on which to build a life of purpose?

Memory Verse: Psalm 19:1 says, “**The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.**” In other words, creation reflects its creator. If God exists, all people have seen and experienced God, though they might not have known it or attributed that experience to God.

