

Life with a Purpose!

#3108 0204 24A A study in Colossians 1:1-10

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To live with a *purpose* is to live with a *goal* about what we want to accomplish and knowing in what direction we are going—always toward that eternal *goal* of eternal *life* with God and all who have gone before trusting Him to the end of their life.

We should not just be *going through the motions* with no goal in mind. Our *purpose* in life is to *glorify* God in all we do and decide—it is to *trust* God each day all day, and always being ready to learn spiritual lessons because God is ready to teach them.

When we know our *purpose* in life, we arise in the morning with a desire to fulfill *that purpose*. And our *primary* purpose is to bring honor and glory to God somehow during that day.

We can honor Him by the *books* we read, the *music* we choose, the *games* we play, the *attitudes* we show, and with the *Bible* we read every day!

Focusing our thoughts on *trusting* God for that day, has us *asking* Him what *He* has in mind for *us* that day. NIV Jeremiah 29:11 “*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans*

to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Whether we are working, playing sports, attending school, or listening in church—our mindset is to remain *committed* to doing things and thinking thoughts that please God. NIV Proverbs 16:3 “*Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.*”

Each day begins by reminding ourselves that we are *serving* the Lord, and we are *committed* to doing His will—that gives us real *purpose* as we proceed with the tasks of that day.

NIV 1 Peter 4:11 “*If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.*”

That is *always* our primary *purpose*—to bring praise, honor, and glory to God concerning everything we are involved with that day. When we show divine love toward others, we draw closer to God and begin to understand our *purpose* in life.

NKJV 1 John 4:7 “*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.*”

Really *knowing* God and what He promises to *do* for us is vitally important—because AV John 17:3 “*This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*”

When our life has *purpose*, it is a *blessing* to others! Our actions on any given day will bless those in the home, at work, during school, and with everyone with whom we interact.

As we desire to follow Jesus’ example by showing love, kindness, and consideration to others, we give them a *glimpse* of the Savior and a *reminder* of what *their* attitude should be.

Our purpose in life is to *serve* as Jesus did—interacting always with a Christlike attitude. A godly example will have a big influence on those with us.

The more we understand His *plan* and *purpose*, the more we understand the huge *price* He paid to buy our life back from the world.

That sacrifice made it possible for every sin and every mistake we have ever made to be erased and expunged from the record of our life.

Our mistakes are forgotten when we repent and ask God for His forgiveness. Our prayer is to have a clean heart by faith in the atoning Blood of Jesus.

It begins with a sincere *repentance*, a steadfast *commitment*, and willingly *accepting* the gift of the Holy Spirit. It takes a *choice* on our part—but it is the most *profound* choice we will ever make! One we will *never regret* for an eternity!

The apostle Paul’s *purpose* in life was to serve others and to be faithful to his Lord and Master.

NKJV Colossians 1:1 “*Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, 2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colosse: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*”

That was his *purpose* in life—to *encourage* others and show by example how important it is to serve Christ faithfully.

AV Colossians 1:3 “*We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, 4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints [God’s people NLT].*”

The apostle’s *purpose* in life was praying for others and we should follow his example as we journey on life’s pathway leading to Heaven.

The apostle said he heard of their *trust* in Jesus and of the *love* they showed toward others. NLT Colossians 1:5 “*You do this because you are looking forward to the joys of heaven — as you have been ever since you first heard the truth of the Good News.*”

Our *purpose* in life is looking forward to the *hope* of Heaven—an eternity with God, with our Savior, and with all who have gone before trusting God every day and knowing that *their* purpose on earth was to glorify God.

NLT Colossians 1:6 “*This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world [and bringeth forth fruit AV]. It is changing lives everywhere, just as it changed yours that very first day you heard and understood the truth about God’s great kindness [the grace of God AV] to sinners.*”

The Good News of God’s grace is part of every message that is sent to many parts of the world through our Gospel Tract program, Internet Web page, and on Drop Box that is available globally. The primary *purpose* of our church since it began in 1925 is to speak and send printed messages of God’s full Truth.

NLT Colossians 1:7 “*Epaphras, our much loved co-worker, was the one who brought you the Good News. He is Christ’s faithful servant, and he is helping us in your place. 8 He is the one who told us about the great love for others that the Holy Spirit has given you.*”

Our *purpose* is to be a faithful servant of Jesus and to help anyone know God’s Truth through our printed tracts which explain of God’s saving grace through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus. Only God, through faith in Jesus, can save us from destruction and to receive eternal life in Paradise.

Our printed tracts explain that everyone must *accept* the Gospel plan of life, *repent* of our sin,

and asking God to enable us to walk in faithful obedience to His Word.

These Gospel tracts tell of the need to have divine love toward others and asking for the Holy Spirit to give us a right attitude toward everyone.

AV Colossians 1:9 “*For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;*

10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.”

Daily prayers for all believers is the right thing to do and asking that God give them spiritual enlightenment so they can fulfill *their* purpose in life—which is to help, encourage, pray for, and influence in godly ways those with whom they interact.

Every life has a *purpose*, and God will enable each one to *fulfill* that *purpose* as they give their life fully to Him Romans 12:1.

God is love 1 John 4:8, 16 and we are to *emulate* that love toward everyone—that is the believer’s *purpose* in life.

We are not on earth to be *remembered* for anything, but to be *prepared* for something—eternal life. And God will do the *preparation* work—we just *ask* Him and *follow* His directions.

The only thing that *matters* is what we did with the Gospel Truth God gave us.

What is our response to the Good News of Jesus going to the Cross in *our* place and sacrificing His life for *us*, to pay a *debt* for us He did *not owe*, in order to pay a debt, we could *not pay*!

Life presents us with *many* choices, but being ready for God’s Kingdom presents us with just *two* choices—to believe Jesus and

be commended; or to reject His Gospel Truth and be condemned!

Two choices—two destinations! Live by faith in Him for Paradise or follow the ways of the world and end in Gehenna!

When we live with eternity in mind, the things of earth dim and lose their value.

The *end* of this life is just the *start* of the next eternal one! We *exit* this life and *enter* eternal life. The return of Jesus will happen suddenly and with no further warning.

We *must* be aware of the *time*—all the time! We have been warned—AV Romans 13:11 “*Now it is high time to awake out of [spiritual] sleep,*” because His return is “*Nearer than when we believed.*”

The Christian life begins with love for God. AV 1 Peter 1:8 “*Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.*”

Following God’s plan in faithful obedience gives our life real *purpose* and *meaning*! A life of *purpose* is a life that is all about *Him* and *not* about us.

We were made *by* God *for* God—and we were given this one life to *glorify* Him.

That is our *purpose* and *eternity* is our *goal*!



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