



## Week One: My Purpose

Saturday night February 20, 2010 was to be a great night's sleep back in my own bed after my second total knee replacement on the 16th. But God had other plans. See earlier that Saturday instead of being released from the hospital my doctor told me I needed a blood transfusion and would have to spend another night in the hospital. Just great, more lousy food, bad TV and a restless night being interrupted by nurses. Around 2am I had to buzz the nurses station, "Mr. Anderson do you want chocolate or vanilla ice-cream tonight?" "NO! I feel like a concrete block is on my chest," I said. Quickly the nurses rushed in, put a little pill under my tongue and then hooked me up to an EKG machine. Yep, I had just survived a pulmonary embolism. I wouldn't have survived if I had been at home and needless to say my stay in the hospital was extended another week. But I was very calm throughout the ordeal for an Angel of the Lord had been with me and he had told me God wasn't done with me yet. So I was left to ponder the bigger question of, what is my purpose going forward?

Don't we all sometime in our life ask ourselves what is our Purpose?

### Proverbs 16:1-9

- 1 To humans belong the plans of the heart, but from the Lord comes the proper answer of the tongue.
- 2 All a person's ways seem pure to them, but motives are weighed by the Lord.
- 3 Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.
- 4 **The Lord works out everything to its proper end** — even the wicked for a day of disaster.
- 5 The Lord detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished.
- 6 Through love and faithfulness sin is atoned for; through the fear of the Lord evil is avoided.
- 7 When the Lord takes pleasure in anyone's way, he causes their enemies to make peace with them.
- 8 Better a little with righteousness than much gain with injustice.
- 9 In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

If the Lord has made everything for his purpose what is our purpose?

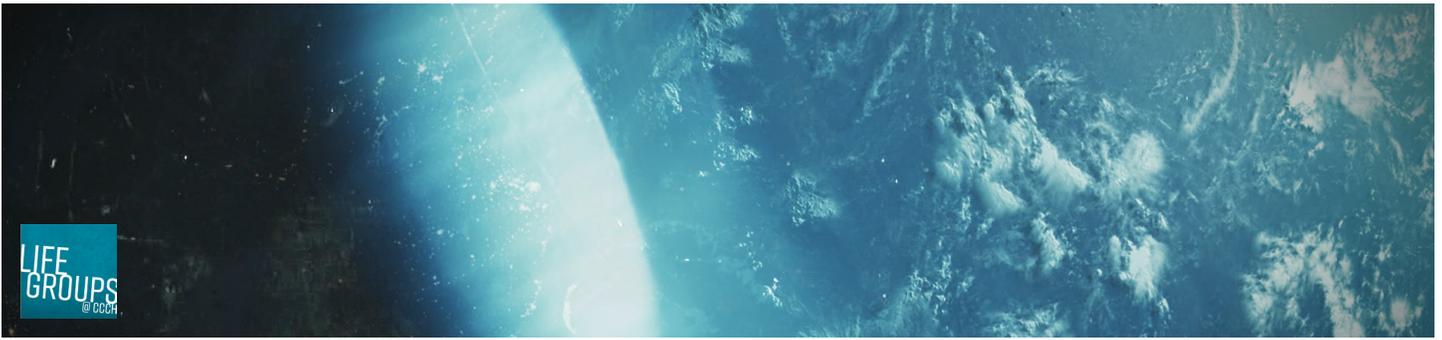
What does this passage tell us about our purpose?

To praise, worship and honor Him

Isn't our purpose to serve the Lord?

Are we not to worship, praise and honor Him?

The only way to live with the Spirit of God is to be the person God made you to be. The Spirit of God is like a river of living water flowing through us. When we are in the Spirit we can't help but want to always be in concert with God. And in doing so we want to serve Him, praise Him, worship Him.



### **Psalm 139:13-16**

<sup>13</sup> For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup> I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. <sup>16</sup> Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

**When you were young, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

**Are you doing this today?**

**If not, what are you doing? And isn't this God's plan for you?**

### **Matthew 11:28-30**

<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

What a great reassurance from God that when things are going completely haywire we can find REST in him. All we have to do is put our faith in Him. Simple but yet we struggle with trusting God to take care of us. But wouldn't it be great to get a wonderful night's sleep knowing God is in control and not us.

Prayer is one of the most important aspects of staying in concert with God; but we seem to not want to bother God with our prayers. God wants to hear our prayers. He wants to help us find 'rest in him'.

**Share a time when prayers were lifted to God and how He answered your prayer?**

**Was this a time when you found 'Rest' in the Lord?**

### **Proverbs 3:24**

<sup>24</sup> "When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet."

God tells us to not be afraid, and our rest will be sweet. How great is this!

**While life isn't always exactly what we want, do you think some part of your life is currently living out your purpose? Why or why not?**

Close the Life group with prayer asking for God to give you REST and PURPOSE in your life. Remember HE is always with us and never forsakes us.

*In Christ.*