

Small Group Questions  
Positioned for a Purpose - Week 3

**What Am I Designed For? (Part 1)**

Today we're going to look at the WHAT question. ***What am I designed to do?*** Usually answers to this question focus on our interests, abilities or opportunities. An example might be, "I believe I am designed by God to sell things because I have a unique ability to connect with people and close a deal."

- ❖ In your small group, share something you believe you were created to be or do. (7 minutes)

It's sometimes helpful to know that passages in the Bible were directed to people who faced some similar issues as we do today. The book of 1 Peter was written by Peter, a disciple of Jesus, to Christians who were wondering how to live as believers in their world; they didn't know what they were supposed to do. So, Peter writes a letter to them. In this letter he reminds them ***who they are*** and ***what they are supposed to do***.

- ❖ Read the passage below out loud.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

<sup>11</sup> Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

1 Peter 2:9-12

- ❖ Let's revisit the issue of IDENTITY since it's front and center in this passage. List the words Peter uses to help these early Christians understand who they are. (5 minutes)
- ❖ How do you think these Christians felt as they reflected on their identity? Do these phrases raise any specific feelings in you?

In verse 9 there is a phrase that is easy to read and then forget, but, it has huge implications for our discussion today.

- ❖ What does Peter tell these Christians their purpose in their world is? Fill in the rest of this sentence using this passage; My purpose is to \_\_\_\_\_ . How does this match the phrase (My purpose is to Make God Known) used in the message this past week?

- ❖ Do you think the purpose Peter gives the early Christians could be our purpose today? Why, or why not?
- ❖ We usually associate PRAISE with songs or statements clearly highlight God. But right after Peter clarifies their purpose, he gives them practical ways to fulfill their purpose. What does Peter tell them to do? (Pay special attention to verse 12.) What are some practical ways for you to apply this instruction in your life?

Peter lays out this sequence:

A – This is who you are. B – This is your purpose. C – Do this. D – When you follow this pattern, God is glorified.

- ❖ Which part of the sequence are you clear on? Which part do you lose sight of most easily?
- ❖ Take some time to pray for each other. Ask God to help you understand how each element in the sequence is important.