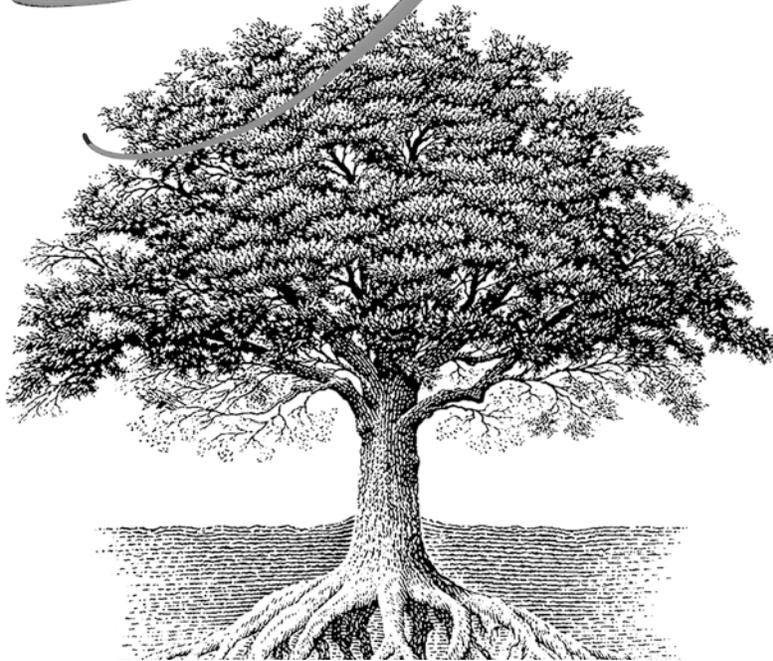


THE
PURPOSE
DRIVEN[®]
Life



Seminar

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Welcome!

Thank you for attending this Purpose Driven Life Seminar!

You are about to join an alumni group of over 400,000 pastors and church leaders from all over the world who have taken Purpose Driven training. It is my prayer that God will use you to fulfill his purposes in your own congregation and throughout the world. We've taught in 162 countries and to about 70 different denominations. We are humbled and honored by your presence today.

Rick Warren
rick@purposedriven.com

OUR SEMINAR GOALS

1. TO ENCOURAGE YOUR SPIRIT

"Encourage each other and build each other up." 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NLT)

"Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up." Galatians 6:9 (LB)

2. TO STRETCH YOUR MIND

"Do yourself a favor and learn all you can; then remember what you learn and you will prosper." Proverbs 19:8 (TEV)

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17 (NIV)

"How can you teach others if you refuse to learn?" Romans 2:21 (CEV)

"The intelligent man is always open to new ideas. In fact, he looks for them!"
Proverbs 18:15 (LB)

3. TO SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS

"If the ax is dull and its edge is unsharpened, more strength is needed, but skill will bring success." Ecclesiastes 10:10 (NIV)

"God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble." James 4:6 (TEV)

4. TO STRENGTHEN YOUR CHURCH

"Under Christ's direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love." Ephesians 4:16 (NLT)

WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

- There is no correlation between the *size* and *strength* of a church!
- There is more than one way to grow a church, so never criticize what God is blessing!
- It takes all kinds of churches to reach all kinds of people!
- If a principle is biblical, it is transcultural. It will work anywhere!
- We must never confuse our methods with God's message!

The message must *never* change, but the methods must continually change!

Introduction: What On Earth Am I Here For?

It is not about _____

“For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible . . . everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him.” Colossians 1:16 (MSG)

There are only two ways to discover purpose

- _____
- _____

“It’s in Christ that we find out who we are and what we’re living for . . . part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.” Ephesians 1:11 (MSG)

“Long before he laid down earth’s foundation he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love . . .” Ephesians 1:4a (MSG)

“The Lord has made everything for his own purposes . . .” Proverbs 16:4 (NLT)

There are three key things to understand about God’s purpose for your life.

Life is a _____, a _____ and a _____.

“I am here on earth for just a little while.” Psalm 119:19 (TEV)

“So if you call God your Father, live your time as temporary residents on earth . . .”
1 Peter 1:17 (GWT)

“Friend, this world is not your home so don’t make yourself cozy in it. Don’t indulge your ego at the expense of your soul.” 1 Peter 2:11 (MSG)

It’s all _____.

“For everything comes from God alone. Everything lives by his power, and everything is for his glory.” Romans 11:36 (LB)

“I brought glory to you here on earth, by doing everything you told me to do.”
John 17:4 (NLT)

An amazing secret to the glory of God:

If you fulfill God's purposes on earth, then you're going to share in God's glory in eternity.

"And when the head Shepherd comes, your reward will be a never-ending share in his glory and honor." 1 Peter 5:4 (NLT)

"But his (God's) plans endure forever; his purposes last eternally." Psalm 33:11 (TEV)

Purpose #1:

You Were Planned _____

“ . . . For you (God) created everything, and it is for your pleasure that they exist and were created.” Revelation 4:11 (NLT)

“The Lord takes pleasure in his people.” Psalm 149:4 (TEV)

“The Lord is pleased only with those who worship him.” Psalm 147:11 (CEV)

BRINGING PLEASURE TO GOD IS CALLED: _____

“ . . . Worship him continually.” Psalm 105:4 (TEV)

“God is Spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.” John 4:24 (NIV)

Worship is a _____ .

ELEMENTS OF LIFESTYLE WORSHIP

We worship God whenever we . . .

1. _____ him supremely.

“I don't want your sacrifices, I want your love. I don't want your offerings; I want you to know me.” Hosea 6:6 (LB)

“Jesus replied, ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.”
Matthew 22:37–38 (NIV)

“God is love.” 1 John 4:8; 1 John 4:16 (NIV)

2. _____ him completely.

“But he takes pleasure . . . in those who trust in his constant love.”
Psalm 147:11 (TEV)

“And without faith, it is impossible to please God . . .” Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

3. _____ him wholeheartedly.

“Just tell me what to do and I’ll do it, Lord. As long as I live I’ll wholeheartedly obey.” Psalm 119:33 (LB)

4. _____ to him absolutely.

“. . . give yourself to God . . . and surrender your whole being to him to be used for righteous purposes.” Romans 6:13 (TEV)

Surrender is the _____

“. . . offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him. This is the true worship that you should offer.” Romans 12:1 (TEV)

“The sacrifices to God are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart . . .”
Psalm 51:17 (NIV)

Rate yourself on a lifestyle of worship:

Needs work 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 Well Developed

Purpose #2:

You Were Formed _____

"God is the One who made all things and all things are for his glory. He wanted to have many children share in his glory." Hebrews 2:10 (NCV)

"His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure." Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

". . . [God] has given us the privilege of being born again so that we are now members of God's own family." 1 Peter 1:3b (LB)

"Jesus and the people he makes holy all belong to the same family. This is why he isn't ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters." Hebrews 2:11 (CEV)

Your Christian Life is not just a matter of _____ .

It is also a matter of _____ !

GOD'S FAMILY IS CALLED THE _____ .

". . . God's family is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth." 1 Timothy 3:15 (GW)

"Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or a cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we?" Romans 12: 4-5 (MSG)

"Each one of you is part of the body of Christ, and you were chosen to live together in peace." Colossians 3:15 (CEV)

EXPERIENCING LIFE TOGETHER IS CALLED _____ .

"And we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers." 1 John 3:16 (NIV)

"Dear friends, let us love one another." 1 John 4:7 (NIV)

THREE BIBLICAL MARKS OF REAL FELLOWSHIP ARE:

1. _____

“But if we live in the light, as God is in the light, we can share fellowship with each other . . . If we say we have no sin we are fooling ourselves.” 1 John 1:7–8 (NCV)

2. _____

*“You must make allowance for each other’s faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”
Colossians 3:13 (NLT)*

3. _____

*“How wonderful it is, how pleasant, for God’s people to live together in harmony.”
Psalm 133:1 (TEV)*

*“Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”
Ephesians 4:3 (NIV)*

“Let there be real harmony so there won’t be divisions in the church. I plead with you to be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.” 1 Corinthians 1:10 (NLT)

FOCUS ON WHAT WE SHARE IN COMMON, NOT OUR DIFFERENCES

“So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony and on the growth of one another’s character . . . ” Romans 14:19 (PH)

Rate yourself on real fellowship:

Needs work 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 Well Developed

“. . . And since we’re all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.” Romans 12:5 (NLT)

Purpose #3:

You Were Created to _____

“From the very beginning God decided that those who came to him—and all along he knew who would—should become like his Son, so that his Son would be the First, with many brothers.” Romans 8:29 (LB)

“We look at this Son, and see God’s original purpose in everything created.”
Colossians 1:15 (MSG)

“Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, in our likeness . . .’”
Genesis 1:26 (NIV)

“In your lives you must think and act like Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:5 (NCV)

WHAT IS JESUS LIKE? _____

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” Galatians 5:22–23 (NIV)

“. . . And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him and reflect his glory even more.” 2 Corinthians 3:18b (NLT)

THE HOLY SPIRIT USES THREE THINGS TO DEVELOP CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER

1. The Holy Spirit uses _____ to produce Christlike character within us.

“. . . our marvelous God whose gracious Word can make you into what he wants us to be . . .” Acts 20:32 (MSG)

[Jesus prayed], “Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.” John 17:17 (NIV)

“Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.” 2 Timothy 3:17 (MSG)

2. The Holy Spirit uses _____ to produce Christlike character.

3. The Holy Spirit uses _____ to produce Christlike character.

“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.” 2 Corinthians 4:17 (NIV)

KEY: God develops the fruit of the Spirit in your life by allowing you to experience circumstances where you’re tempted to express the exact _____ !

“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them . . .”
Romans 8:28 (NLT)

“For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son . . .” Romans 8:29 (NLT)

THE PROCESS OF BECOMING LIKE CHRIST IS CALLED: _____

Expect four kinds of problems in life:

1. Trials are situations designed _____ to draw us closer to him and build our character.

“We know that these troubles produce patience. And patience produces character.”
Romans 5:3–4 (NCV)

“These troubles come to prove that your faith is pure. This purity of faith is worth more than gold . . .” 1 Peter 1:7a (NCV)

2. Temptations are situations designed _____ to draw us away from God and to destroy our character.

“And remember, no one who wants to do wrong should ever say, ‘God is tempting me.’ God is never tempted to do wrong and he never tempts anyone else.”
James 1:13 (NLT)

3. Trespasses are hurts caused by the _____ .

“Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us . . .”
Matthew 6:12 (paraphrase)

4. Troubles are usually, but not always, the _____ our own sinful choices.

Different problems require different responses:

1. If it's a trial from God, then I need to relax in it. I just need to _____ and trust God—let go and let God.
2. If it's a temptation from Satan, the Bible says you need to _____ it.
3. If it's a trespass from somebody else, you need to _____ it through forgiveness. I need to let it go.
4. If the trouble is your own fault, the Bible says you need to _____ of it.

THERE ARE NO SHORTCUTS TO MATURITY. IT TAKES TIME.

"We arrive at real maturity, that measure of development which is meant by the fullness of Christ." Ephesians 4:13 (PH)

". . . our lives gradually become brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like Him." 2 Corinthians 3:18 (MSG)

ANYTHING THAT IS OF VALUE TAKES TIME!

WHY DOES IT TAKE SO LONG?

**We are afraid to _____ ourselves
and _____ the truth!**

CHARACTER IS BASICALLY BUILT UPON _____

Rate yourself on real discipleship:

Needs work 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 Well Developed

"When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same any more. A new life has begun." 2 Corinthians 5:17 (LB)

Purpose #4:

You Were Shaped _____

“God made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us to do good works which God planned in advance for us to live our lives doing.” Ephesians 2:10 (NCV)

“The people I have shaped for myself will broadcast my praises.” Isaiah 43:21 (NJB)

“God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God’s many kinds of blessings.” 1 Peter 4:10 (LB)

“You shaped me, first inside, then out, you formed me in my mother’s womb.”
Psalm 139:13 (MSG)

- S** _____ (1 Corinthians 12; Romans 8; Ephesians 4)
- H** _____ (Matthew 12:34; Proverbs 4:23; Psalm 37:4)
- A** _____ (Exodus 31:3; 1 Corinthians 12:5)
- P** _____ (1 Corinthians 2:11)
- E** _____ (Romans 8:28; 2 Corinthians 1)

THESE 5 GIFTS DETERMINE WHAT IS TO BE YOUR AREA OF SERVICE OR MINISTRY.

GOD WANTS YOU TO:

_____ **YOUR SHAPE**

_____ **YOUR SHAPE**

_____ **YOUR SHAPE**

GOD DOESN'T WANT YOU COMPARING YOURSELF TO OTHERS!

“What right do you have, a human being, to cross-examine God? The pot has no right to say to the potter, ‘Why did you make me this shape?’ Surely, a potter can do what he likes with the clay.” Romans 9:20–21 (JB)

Using my SHAPE to serve others is called _____ .

The Bible says that _____ is a minister.

“Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve and to give my life . . . ” Matthew 20:27–28 (LB)

"[For] . . . God so loved the world that he gave . . ." John 3:16 (NIV)

"Whoever wants to be great, must be a servant." Matthew 20:26 (NIV)

MY SHAPE REVEALS MY _____ , BUT MY SERVANT'S HEART REVEALS MY _____ .

CHARACTERISTICS OF REAL SERVANTS:

- 1. Real servants do every task with _____ .**

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." Colossians 3:23 (NIV)

"If you think you're too important to help someone in need, you're only fooling yourself. You are really a nobody." Galatians 6:3 (NLT)

- 2. Real servants maintain a _____ .**

REAL SERVANTS LIVE FOR AN AUDIENCE OF ONE! JESUS!

". . . If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ." Galatians 1:10 (NIV)

"I served the Lord with great humility and with tears, although I was severely tested . . ." Acts 20:19 (NIV)

- 3. Real servants don't worry about _____ .**

". . . we will not compare ourselves with each other as if one were better than another and another worse. We have far more interesting things to do with our lives. Each of us is an original." Galatians 5:26 (MSG)

"Who are you to criticize someone else's servant? The Lord will determine whether his servant has been successful." Romans 14:4 (GW)

**REAL SERVANTS DON'T COMPARE OR
COMPETE WITH OTHER SERVANTS!**

“Be sure to do what you should, for then you will enjoy the personal satisfaction of having done your work well, and you won’t need to compare yourself to anyone else.” Galatians 6:4 (NLT)

COMPETITION BETWEEN GOD’S SERVANTS IS ILLOGICAL BECAUSE:

- We’re all on the same team.
- Our goal is to make God look good, *not* us.
- We’ve all been given different assignments.
- We’re all uniquely SHAPE’d.

**Equal dedication to every task.
Maintain a low profile.
Not caring about what other servants are doing.**

Rate yourself on having a servant’s heart in ministry:

Needs work 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 Well Developed

“ . . . and, if, as my representatives, you give even a cup of cold water to a little child, you will surely be rewarded.” Matthew 10:42 (LB)

“ . . . He will not forget how hard you have worked for him, and how you have shown your love to him by caring for other Christians . . . ” Hebrews 6:10 (NLT)

“ . . . Throw yourselves into the work of the Master, confident that nothing you do for him is a waste of time or effort.” 1 Corinthians 15:58 (MSG)

“ . . . kindle afresh the gift of God, which is in you . . . ” 2 Timothy 1:6 (NASB)

Purpose #5:

You Were Made _____

“In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world.” John 17:18 (MSG)

To be balanced every Christian needs . . .

a *ministry* in the _____ and a *mission* in the _____

“In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world.” John 17:18 (MSG)

“. . . As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” John 20:21 (NIV)

“. . . through Christ, God made peace between us and himself, and God gave us the work of telling everyone about the peace we can have with him. So we have been sent to speak for Christ . . .” 2 Corinthians 5:18, 20 (NCV)

“. . . The most important thing is that I complete my mission, the work that the Lord Jesus gave me—to tell people the Good News about God’s grace.” Acts 20:24 (NCV)

FULFILLING MY MISSION IS CALLED: _____

FULFILLING MY MISSION IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE:

1. It is _____ .

“Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything that I have told you.” Matthew 28:19–20 (CEV)

“. . . you must warn them so that they may live. If you don’t speak out and warn the wicked to stop their evil ways, they will die in their sin. But, I will hold you responsible for their death.” Ezekiel 3:18 (NCV)

2. It is the _____ .

3. It gives my life _____ .

“Only those who throw away their lives for my sake and for the sake of the Good News will ever know what it means to really live!” Mark 8:35 (LB)

“But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.” 2 Peter 3:10 (NIV)

4. God’s timetable for history’s conclusion is connected to the completion of the Commission we’ve been given.

“No one knows the day or the hour, not even the angels, nor the Son, but only the Father . . .” Matthew 24:36 (NIV)

“The Good News about God’s kingdom will be preached in all the world, to every nation. Then the end will come.” Matthew 24:14 (NCV)

**A WORLD CLASS CHRISTIAN FOCUSES ON THE _____
NOT THE _____**

“So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” 2 Corinthians 4:18 (NIV)

“Those in frequent contact with the things of the world should make good use of them without becoming attached to them, for this world and all it contains will soon pass away.” 1 Corinthians 7:31 (NLT)

“. . . let us strip off anything that slows us down or holds us back . . .”
Hebrews 12:1 (LB)

“He [God] is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish . . .” 2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

Rate yourself on completing your mission of evangelism:

Needs work 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 Well Developed

What are You Going to Do About What You've Just Heard?

**Will you commit the rest of your life
to the eternal purposes of God?**

“ . . . We beg you, Please don't squander one bit of this marvelous life God has given us!” 2 Corinthians 6:1 (MSG)

Paul said: “So I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step . . .”
1 Corinthians 9:26 (NLT)

**A Great Commitment to the Great Commandment
and the Great Commission will grow a Great Christian.**

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

“Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and Prophets hang on these two commandments.” Matthew 22:36–40 (NIV)

“Love God with all your heart”

You were planned for God's pleasure, so your purpose is to love to God through worship.

“Love your neighbor as yourself”

You were shaped for serving, so your purpose is to show love for others through ministry.

THE GREAT COMMISSION

“GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES of all nations, BAPTIZING THEM in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and TEACHING THEM TO DO everything I have commanded you.” Matthew 28:19–20 (NIV)

“Go and make disciples.”

You were made for a mission, so your purpose is to share God's message through evangelism.

“baptize them into . . .”

You were formed for God’s family, so your purpose is to identify with his church through fellowship.

“teach them to do all things . . .”

You were created to become like Christ so your purpose is to grow to maturity through discipleship.

Jesus said, “Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”

John 13:17 (NIV)

LIFE'S FIVE GREATEST QUESTIONS

Preparing Your Life Purpose Statement

1. What will be the center of my life? (The question of worship)

Will God be the center of your life?

2. What will be the community of my life? (The question of fellowship)

Will the church be the community of your life?

3. What will be the character of my life? (The question of discipleship)

Will you grow into developing Christlike character?

4. What will be the contribution of my life? (The question of ministry)

Who will you serve?

5. What will be the communication of my life? (The question of mission)

Who will you reach through your ministry?

“David served God’s purposes in his own generation . . . then he died.”
Acts 13:36 (NASB)

“And if we think that our present service for him is hard, just remember that someday, we are going to sit with him, and rule with him . . .” 2 Timothy 2:12 (LB)

“Worthy, O Master! Yes! Our God! Take the glory! the honor! the power! You created it all; It was created because you wanted it.” Revelation 4:11 (MSG)

Will you live the rest of your life for the purposes of God? Will you?

Next Steps

TALK IT THROUGH WITH OTHERS

“Encourage each other and give each other strength.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NCV)

TEST YOURSELF REGULARLY

“Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don’t drift along taking everything for granted. Give yourselves regular checkups . . .” 2 Corinthians 13:5 (MSG)

WRITE IT DOWN

“It’s crucial that we keep a firm grip on what we’ve heard so that we don’t drift off.”
Hebrews 2:1 (MSG)

PASS IT ON

“Now I want you to tell these same things to followers who can be trusted to tell others.” 2 Timothy 2:2b (CEV)

Answer Key

INTRODUCTION

You
Speculation
Revelation
Test, trust, temporary assignment
For God's glory

PURPOSE #1

For God's pleasure
Worship
Lifestyle
Love
Trust
Obey
Surrender
Heart of worship

PURPOSE #2

For God's family
Believing, belonging
Church
Fellowship
Authenticity
Mercy
Unity

PURPOSE #3

Become like Christ
The fruit of the Spirit
Truth
People
Circumstances
Opposite quality
Discipleship
By God
By the devil
Sins of others
Consequences
Rest
Resist
Release
Repent
Humble, face
Habits

PURPOSE #4

For serving God
Spiritual Gifts
Heart
Abilities
Personality
Experiences
Accept
Enjoy
Develop
Ministry
Every member
Ministry, maturity
Equal dedication
Low profile
What other servants are doing

PURPOSE #5

For a mission
Church, world
Evangelism
Commanded by Jesus
Greatest thing I can do for anyone
Meaning
Eternal, temporal