



## **Purpose – Week 2**

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## **Purpose**

### **Lesson 2: Purpose: What's the Point?**

**Bible:** Colossians 1:16

**Description:** You are not an accident, and your life isn't just a pointless length of time on earth. You were created for a reason and you have a purpose, but you will never be able to find that purpose if you're looking in the wrong places.

## **Supplies**

- Two buckets or kiddie pools filled with sand
- Twenty Lego blocks
- A candy bar that you've hidden in the room
- A blindfold
- Some type of electronic toy, preferably one that moves around
- A list of clues revealing where the candy bar is hidden

## **Game: Digging for Legos**

Before the game begins, hide ten Legos in each bucket of sand. Put some at the bottom, some halfway through, and some near the top.

Divide the group into two teams. Give each team a bucket of sand.

Explain that the first team to find all ten Legos and build a tower out of them wins.

*They cannot dump the buckets out; they have to dig through with their hands.*

## Teach

Have you ever wondered if you have a purpose in this world? Have you ever tried to figure out if your life was for a reason, or if it was all just pointless? More than that, have you ever wondered how you're supposed to figure out what exactly your purpose is?

It can kind of feel like that game—digging for something when you don't know where it is, feeling like it's out of your control because you can't really see what you're looking for.

We've all wondered what we're on this earth for at one point or another. Most likely, we've all tried to figure out what our purpose is at some point.

I can answer the first question right away: you *do* have a purpose. However, that purpose is not about you, it's about the one who created you.

**“For in Him all things were created: Things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him.” –Colossians 1:16**

*Get out the toy and turn it on.*

Have you guys ever seen these? Pretty cool, right? Well, I've been having some issues with mine. It's not doing what I want to do, and it goes crazy sometimes when I turn it on. So I need some help. Really, I need to figure out how it works from the inside so that I can discover the issue and learn how to fix it. So come on, guys. Tell me how it works!

*Call on a few students and ask if they can tell you exactly how this toy works on the inside.*

It doesn't seem like any of you really know how this thing works. That makes sense, though. Do you know why? Well, because you're not the one who built it.

Since you aren't the creator of this toy, it makes sense that you wouldn't know everything about it. Sure, you may have seen them around. You may have even had one of your own. But that doesn't mean you know everything about it inside and out because you didn't actually make the toy.

In the same way, it makes sense that you don't know everything about your purpose. You can't figure out what your purpose is on your own because you aren't the one who created you - God is the one who created you. And He's the one who created your purpose! He's the only one who knows everything about you, and He's the only one who knows everything about your purpose.

**“For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which**

## **God prepared in advance for us to do.” –Ephesians 2:10**

Have you ever been told that you were an accident? If you have, I’m sorry. Because the truth is, you are no accident. You were created on purpose. Do you know how I know that you’re not an accident? It’s because I know that God created you, and I know that God doesn’t make accidents.

That verse clearly says that we are God’s workmanship—that doesn’t sound like something that’s an accident to me! It also says we were created to do good works that God has already prepared for us to do.

If you were an accident, do you think God would have taken the time to plan out things for you to do? I don’t!

So if you ever start to feel that maybe you don’t have a purpose, or maybe there’s really no reason for your life, just remember that. The God that created you doesn’t make mistakes—He made you, and He made you on purpose.

**“The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.” –Psalm 138:8**

So, I have a question for you. Do you believe that you have a purpose from God? Do you believe that He made you on purpose and for a specific purpose? Because until you do, any search you make on your own is just going to keep turning up empty.

But if you do believe that God created you on purpose and with a purpose, look at the promise in that verse: The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me!

So, how do you figure out that purpose? You ask the one who created you!

God created you exactly as you are. There is nothing about you that is a surprise to Him. You are the way that you are because He made you that way. Your personality, your talents, your desires and your dreams - He knows about them all because He made you that way!

There are a lot of different voices you could choose to listen to about your purpose. Let me give you an example. I need a volunteer.

Okay, here’s what I need from you. There’s a candy bar hidden somewhere in this room. I want you to try to find it. But we’re going to let you look for it two different ways.

First, I’m going to blindfold you and let the rest of the group call out suggestions to help you try to find it. We’ll see how well that works out.

*Blindfold the student. Have the rest of the group call out what they think the student should do—for example, go left, go right, turn around—while looking for the candy bar. Since the group doesn't know where you hid the candy bar, this will not be helpful.*

Okay, so that doesn't seem to be the best way to go about that. Let's try it another way.

*Take the blindfold off and give them the paper with the clues.*

Now, why don't you try to find the candy bar yourself using the clues I gave you?

*Let the student find the candy bar.*

Awesome! Great job. So, you tried that two ways. First, you closed your eyes and only listened to what others had to say. Then, you opened your eyes and read the clues for yourself. Which way was easier?

The second way, of course! And it's the same thing with trying to figure out your purpose. You could put all your trust in other sources—in other people's opinions and in the world's advice—and just close your eyes and blindly follow that.

Or, you could open your eyes and try to figure it out on your own by reading the thing that's going to get you closer to your purpose than those things will ever get you: the Bible.

In this series, we're going to learn a lot about our purpose. But we learn three things right away about our purpose simply by reading the Bible:

1. Your number one purpose is to love.
2. God created you to bring Him glory.
3. You were made to live forever.

**Your number one purpose is to love.**

**“And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” –Luke 10:27**

You were created to love God and love others. God created you out of love, and He wants your love in return. So if you're confused about what your purpose is, this is a great place to start. Ask yourself if you are truly loving God with your life. Then, ask yourself if you are showing that love to others. Answering those two questions will go a long way in learning how to live out your purpose.

**God created you to bring Him glory.**

**“Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.” –Isaiah 43:7**

You were created with a purpose to bring glory to God. Would you say that the way you are living your life right now is bringing God glory? If not, then something needs to change.

**You were made to live forever.**

**“The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.” -1 John 2:17**

Sometimes, when we think about a purpose, we think of things that seem like a big deal to us. A career or fame or something that will get us noticed during the brief time we’re here on earth.

When you realize that our time on earth is only the beginning, though, that changes. If you have a relationship with Jesus, then you’re going to live with Him forever. The end of your life on earth won’t be the end of your life; it’ll just be the beginning. And when you realize that, it changes what you view as important.

## Small Group Questions

1. Have you ever wondered if you have a purpose?
2. Have you ever felt like maybe your life was an accident and you don't have a purpose?
3. Do you believe that God made you on purpose and for a reason?
4. Do you think you've tried to figure out your purpose in this world by looking in the wrong places?
5. Do you think God knows more about your purpose than you do? Why or why not?
6. Are you loving God the best that you can right now? Are you loving others the best that you can?
7. Do you think that the way you are living your life is bringing glory to God?
8. Do you believe you're going to live forever? How does that change the way you think about your purpose?
9. Have you ever looked to see what the Bible has to say about your purpose?
10. Are you going to pray about your purpose this week? Do you believe God wants to hear about your questions when it comes to what your purpose here is?

## Teach - Closing

Trying to figure out our purpose is something that everyone goes through at some point. It can be confusing or frustrating, and at times you can feel like maybe you're not here for any real reason at all.

But if you know Jesus, then you know that's not true. You can confidently say that you have a purpose because you know who created you and you know that He doesn't make mistakes.

This week, open your Bible and see what it has to say. Ask God what His purpose for you is. If you want to live out your purpose, then look at your own life: Are you loving God and others? Are you bringing Him glory? Are you doing it all while keeping in mind that you're going to live forever in Heaven?

God didn't create you so that He could keep your purpose a secret from you. Quite the opposite, actually—He wants you to live life to the fullest, and He knows that's what happens when you live out your purpose! So open your Bible and ask Him to show you this week. He cares about you enough to create you with a specific purpose, and He wants you to live that purpose out.