

Small Group Discussion Guide

For the week of July 24 - 30, 2022

Main Thought and Scriptures:

- **We were all made by God and saved by God to do “good works” on earth. As we follow Jesus, He progressively unfolds His purpose for our lives.**

“For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made...” (Psalm 139:13-14 ESV)

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:8-10 ESV)

- **God has given us unique gifts and abilities to fulfill our purpose.**

“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.” (Romans 12:6-8 ESV)

*“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit **for the common good.**” (1 Corinthians 12:4-7 ESV)*

*“As each has received a gift, use it **to serve one another**, as good stewards of God's varied grace...” (1 Peter 4:10 ESV)*

- **God uses our life experiences—the good and the bad—to prepare us for the “good work” He prepared for us.**

*“And we know that for those who love God **all things work together for good**, for those who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28 ESV)*

- **Our purpose must align with God’s ultimate purpose. No matter our vocation, we are all called to “make disciples” and make an eternal difference in people’s lives.**

*“...All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **Go therefore and make disciples...**” (Matthew 28:18-19 ESV)*

Discussion Questions:

- What stands out to you from the main thought and scriptures as it relates to discovering God’s purpose for your life?
- What “gifts,” “abilities,” or life experiences has God given you to serve others? What have others said you are good at or makes you unique? How can you use those to point people to Jesus?
- In your current season of life, what do you think your purpose is? How has God positioned you to make a difference in the lives of others?

Prayer:

- Pray that we would each discover God’s purpose for our lives through intentionally making a difference in the lives of others.
- Pray for one person that God is calling you to love and serve.