



Purpose

1. The Meaning and Importance of Purpose.
2. How to Pick the Right Purpose.
3. God's Purpose for Us.
4. The Achievement of this Purpose.
5. A Purpose Chart and Explanation.

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THE MEANING AND IMPORTANCE OF PURPOSE

MEANING OF PURPOSE

The dictionary says: Purpose is aim, intention, desired result. Purpose of Life is the goal toward which I live my life; my aim, my intention, my desired purpose for my life. The primary or overall goal of one's life is one's purpose.

IMPORTANCE OF PURPOSE

The most important thing about anything is its purpose – the reason for it. The purpose of a pen is that it writes. The most important thing about a pen is not what it looks like, how much it costs, how big or how small it is (these are secondary matters) but DOES IT WRITE? When you need to write, it is better to have a 10¢ pen that does than a \$50.00 pen that doesn't!

THE IMPORTANCE OF PURPOSE CAN BE SEEN FROM THE FOLLOWING:

1. IT DETERMINES SUCCESS

A successful thing is something that does what it was made to do. A successful person is a person who does what he was made to do.

2. IT INSURES HAPPINESS

Happiness is always a result. Lasting and perfect happiness comes from doing what we were made to do.

The words happiness and healthiness have basically the same meanings. My degree of health is determined by the functioning, according to purpose, of the different members and parts of my body. When everything is doing what it was made to do, I am healthy. When I, as a person, am doing what I was made to do, I am happy.

3. IT GIVE MEANING TO LIFE

Boredom comes out of a lack of meaning – and lack of meaning comes out of a lack of purpose. When a person has a purpose to which he gives himself, it gives meaning to all he does.



4. IT IS THE BASIS FOR GUIDANCE

Decisions are very hard to make when one does not know where one is going or what one wants. When I know where I am going (purpose) then each decision is based upon how to get there or how to accomplish that which I have as a purpose.

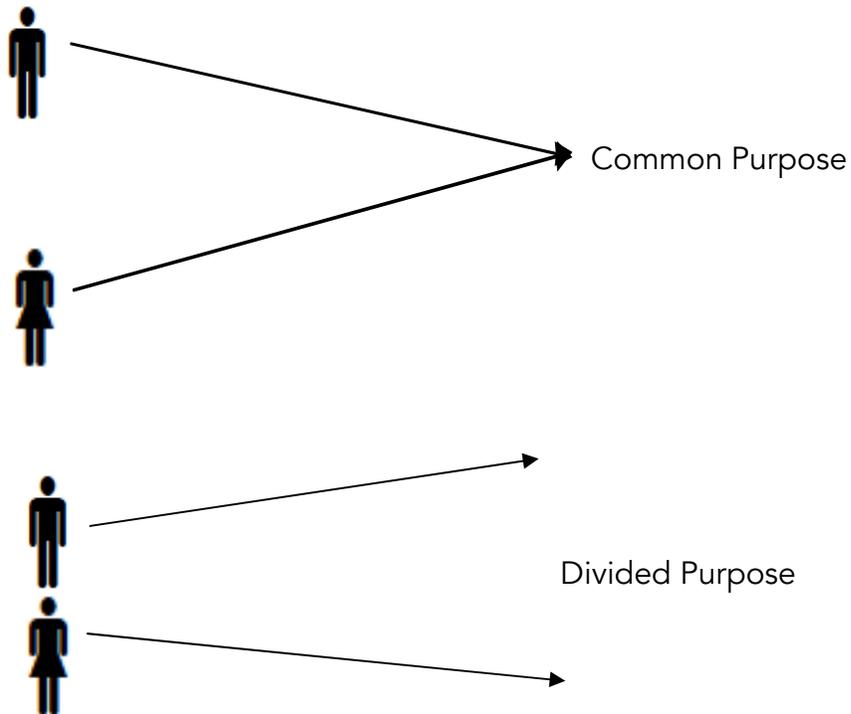
The person who has a hard time making up his mind, choosing, deciding; usually lacks a life purpose.

5. IT IS THE SECRET TO INNER UNITY

Inner disunity and confusion is caused by conflicting purposes and/or no purpose. When all of a person is headed in one direction, he has peace.

6. IT IS THE SECRET TO FAMILY UNITY

Oneness is attained in a family by a common purpose. A common purpose pulls people together and a divided purpose takes them apart.





7. IT IS THE SECRET OF CHURCH UNITY

Union is not unity. You can have union without unity. Unity of purpose welds people together in such a way that their differences become lost, or, a means of mutual benefit, in the pursuit of a common purpose.

HOW TO PICK THE RIGHT GOAL/PURPOSE

I. THERE ARE FOUR POSSIBILITIES FOR EVERY PERSON

- A. No Purpose
- B. Many (two or more) conflicting purposes. A person wants two things that are in different directions. (James 1:8, 4:9)
- C. The worn purpose. (Mark 8:36)
- D. The right purpose. (Romans 8:28)

II. THE RESULTS OF THESE

A. No Purpose

The evidences of No Purpose are:

Boredom, laziness, vacillation (constant changing), fear, insecurity, meaningless life.

B. Conflicting Purposes

Confusion – two pulls, two sets of desires, etc., cause constant confusion.

Vacillation – Unstable in all ways. (James 1:8)

Doubt – Never sure which is right. (Matthew 6:22-23)

Guilt – Both ways cannot be right so there is much inner tension.

Insecurity –



C. Wrong Purpose

The person who has a single purpose but whose purpose is wrong, finds a certain amount of meaning, success, security – but sooner or later runs aground. He is like a fellow climbing the ladder but when he gets to the top, he finds it is leaning against the wrong wall.

D. Right Purpose

Success – In the eyes of God.

Happiness – Constant and not dependent on people or circumstances.

Meaning – As will be manifested by diligence, assurance, security.

III. THE RIGHT GOAL/PURPOSE

Here are ways you will know you will have found the right goal.

A. It will be consistent with the Word of God.

B. It will be the same as that of Jesus Christ.

C. It will include all of man: Body – Soul – Spirit.

Every part of you will be included, for God made you as you are for HIS PURPOSE.

D. It will include all of God ordained relationships. God's purpose for us will include the relationship with others that He has ordained:

Family • Work • Community • Church

E. It will include all of Life. God's purpose for us will take into account something we can do as children – young people – young marrieds – marrieds with children – marrieds with older children and grandchildren – retirees.

F. Your life will be radically different than those around you who have no purpose, conflicting purposes, or wrong purpose.

G. You will be at full peace with God and yourself. You will have assurance, confidence, security, meaning and excitement.



GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME

- I. God made man. God made us for His Glory. Man can best glorify God by being and doing what God made him to be and do. It is absurd to think that God would make man without a PURPOSE.
- II. God's Purpose must become my Purpose.
- III. The Bible clearly lays out God's Purpose for Man.

It is seen in the following:

A. How God made man

Genesis 1:26, 27

B. In Jesus Christ the Perfect Man

In what He was like – John 14:8-11

In what He did – Matthew 3:17, 17:5;
John 4:34, 5:19, 30

C. It is seen in why He saved us

Ephesians 1:4, Colossians 1:22, II Timothy 1:9

D. It is seen in the most important commandment

Mark 12:28-30, I Timothy 1:5, Colossians 1:10,
I Thessalonians 4:1

E. It is seen in God's warnings and God's Promises to us

Hebrews 12:14, Revelations 2:4, I Corinthians 16:22; James 1:12

F. It is seen in God's plan for us

Romans 8:29-30, Ephesians 4:13-14

G. It is seen in the Life of the Saints and Paul

II Corinthians 5:9, II Timothy 4:7,8



CONCLUSION

TO BE GOD LIKE AND GOD LOVING

When one reads and studies these scriptures, we come to a simple conclusion: God wants us to be like Himself and He made us like Himself so He could have fellowship with us. He could love us and we could love Him. Another way of putting this is that God made us for His pleasure, therefore success is pleasing Him.

DEFINITIONS

God Likeness – To be like God and still be a human body means that we are to be like Jesus Christ who was God in a human body.

God Loving – To love God means that we please Him with our life.

These two things constitute ONE PURPOSE because in order to love we must have the same nature. The more like God is, the more one is able to love Him in a way that pleases Him.

A Disciple is a person whose life has as his purpose, God's Purpose. The word Sinner means "to miss the mark". A sinner is a person whose life has missed the mark for which God made him – no matter what else he does!



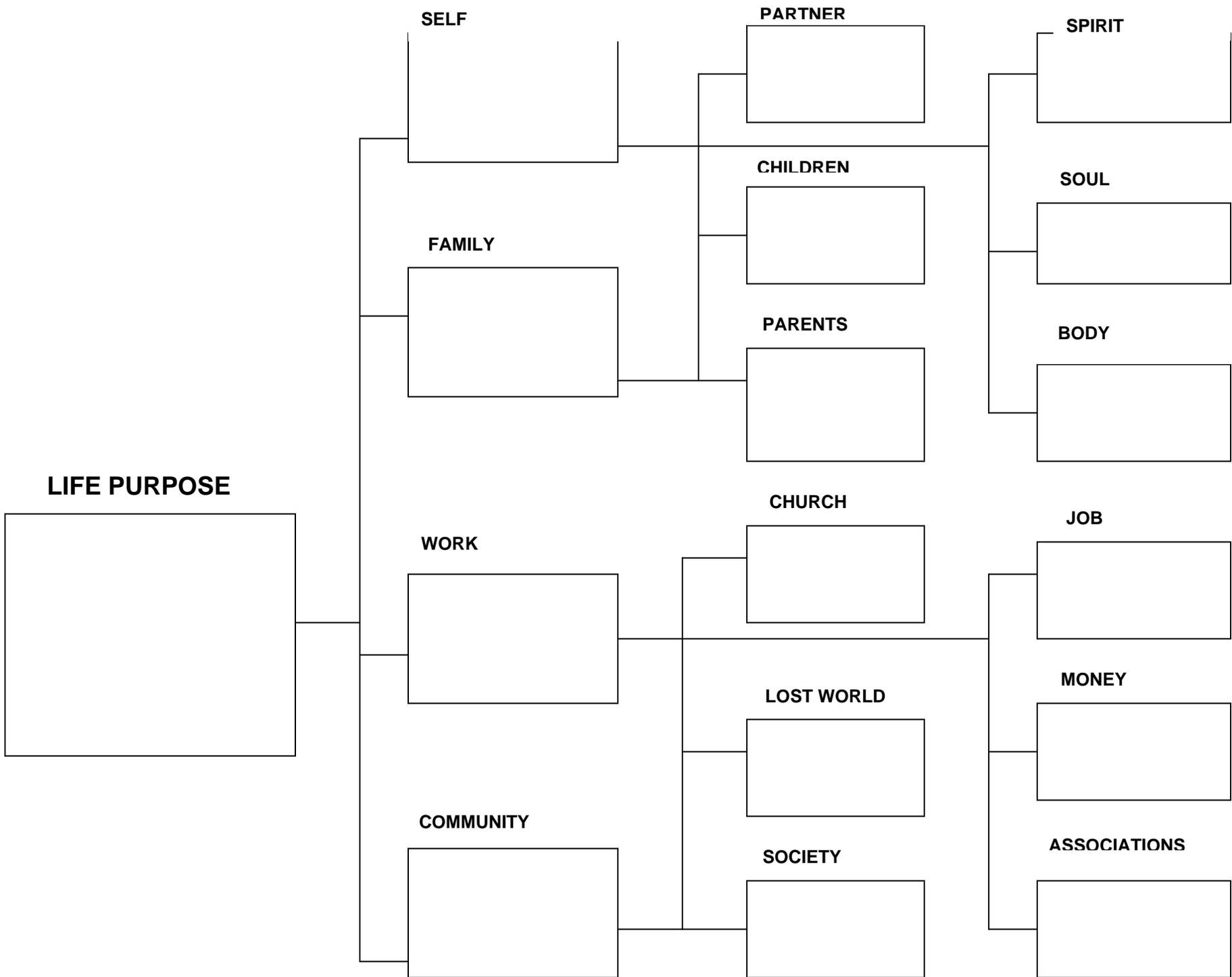
THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GOD'S PURPOSE

HOW DOES ONE ACHIEVE THIS PURPOSE AND THIS GOAL?

"Christ in You the Hope of Glory"

Here are some definite steps:

1. Total commitment to this purpose and goal and God's way of achieving it.
...One will not move in a direction until he is convicted that it is the right direction.
...Total commitment means: To please God is going to be the object of my life!
2. Understanding and accepting God's salvation as the way that God has provided for a Sinner to get back on the path of doing what God made him to do.
3. Understanding and accepting that to please God simply means to find out what God wants and then do it through the promises He has given us. God has not asked us to do anything that He has not provided all we need to do it.
4. Understanding that this is a journey – that we start where we are and we grow in God Likeness and grow in God Loving. It takes time and change!
5. Knowing that God not only has a will but a way He wants things carried out. To please Him means doing His will in His way.
6. Knowing that to please God in our life means to please God in the areas of life that he has ordained:
Self • Family • Work • Community
(church/society/government).
7. Remember that the journey of 100 miles starts with the 1st Step and is made up of steps. The Bible tells us that Jesus grew for 30 years – physically – mentally – spiritually and socially. (Luke 2:52)
You will not reach the ultimate overnight but each day you can please God right now if you do His will.





EXPLANATION OF PURPOSE CHART

The purpose of a Purpose Chart is to give us an overall look at life in its breakdown and to give us a goal to shoot at.

To love God and to please Him means to love and please Him where we are.

As a person

As a member of a family

As a member of a work team

As a member of the community.

How do I please God as a person?

Body – Soul – Spirit

How do I please God as a Family Member?

With my partner

With my children

With my parents

How do I please God in the Community?

In the community of the redeemed - THE CHURCH

In the community of the lost - THE WORLD

In the community of society – GOVERNMENT

THE SECRET OF PLEASING HIM IS GOING TO BE A BALANCE IN THE THINGS THAT PLEASE HIM.

To do this we must....

1. Discover His Priorities
2. Discover His Principles – those guidelines He gives for Life in these areas so we can please Him.
3. Discover His Plans – find out how we want to get from where we are to where He wants us to be. The practical outworking of Divine Priorities, Divine Principles and Divine Purpose.
4. Discover His way of evaluating progress.
5. Discover his promises given for our help.
6. Discover His way of solving problems that crop up as we take this journey.