

Get Your Life Back - Part 5
"Living on Purpose"
February 7th, 2021

Intro:

- **We were meant to Live our Lives ON PURPOSE!!!**
 - **The Best, Most Fulfilling Life we can live is a Life On Purpose!**
- **The Problem is: The last year has been so hard b/c so many of us felt Pulled Off Purpose!!!**
 - **If the last 12 months did anything, they pulled our lives Off Purpose!**
- **God wants us to Live our Lives ON PURPOSE!!!**

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (NIV)

- **One of the devil's primary strategies in our life is to get us OFF our Purpose!**
 - **If he can't make us overtly sin, then he will try to get us distracted from our purpose.**
- **Our world doesn't help this, does it???**
 - **The last 12 months have caused us to Get Real Myopic, Self-Focused & just "Survive."**
 - **Naval Gazing... Head in our Phone... Numb out to Netflix & just survive.**
- **But that's not Living God's Best for our lives!!!**
 - **God wants us to Live Fully Alive!**
 - **The Way we live Fully Alive is to Live on Purpose!**
 - **That's what I want to talk about today.**

PRAY

? When was the last time you felt Fully Alive???

- **Give some fun ones...**
 - **Fasting - Ate a Krispy Kreme Donut or Culvers!!!**
 - **When your Favorite team won! (Bucs fans!)**

- Guy / Girl asked you out! - Got a Raise / Stimulus Check!
- Got the job / Got approved for the loan on the House
- Heard God whisper to your heart in prayer
- Saw God answer your prayer

- I got one for ya: I bet the last time you truly felt fully alive is when you were giving yourself to a Purpose Greater than yourself!!!

- We were made that way, you know...

*** Living On Purpose and With Purpose Changes Everything.**

- If all we do is go through life paying bills, buying stuff on Amazon, Scrolling Facebook, Making it through & Living for the occasional trip to Disney...

- We're going to get to the end of our life or the end of a year and be pretty dissatisfied, & we're going to be pretty discouraged along the way!

- But what if... What if we can give ourselves to something bigger than ourselves???

- Something that will outlive us... Something that doesn't just make our lives better, but actually changes the lives of others as well?!?

- Getting our Life Back looks like Living on Purpose this year!

If we're going to Get Our Life Back than, We must:

1. Live on Purpose Internally.

A. Nobody ends up somewhere great on Accident.

- That means, if we're going to get where God wants us to go this year, than it's not just gonna happen by accident, we're going to need a plan!

- IOW, we're going to have to Own our own Growth!

Romans 12:1 "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God--this is your true and proper worship." (NIV)

I Corinthians 6:20 "For God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body." (NLT)

C. MIP: ? What are you doing this year to grow yourself spiritually?

- **Get a Personal Plan for your Growth.**
- **You'll feel more fully alive and more fully engaged when you are engaging your Personal Growth.**
- **CHALLENGING ONE OF OUR YOUNG STAFF ILL.**
 - **Read 24 books this year!**

D. Some Examples:

- **Join a group.**
 - **We thoroughly believe the best way to Learn & Grow is in Group Form!!!**
 - **Jesus was always teaching the 12 together!!!**
- **Soap every day.**
 - **3 DAYS / WEEK ILL - Do you think you'll be more like Jesus having spent 150 days in the Word & personally applying it to your life this year???**
- **Pray.** - **Set a Goal to spend 21 minutes in Prayer twice / week!**
 - **36.4 hours in prayer - That's an entire work week in prayer!**
- **Worship on your own.**

E. But if all we do this year is Focus on our own Internal Growth, at the end of the year, we will personally be Further Along & more like Jesus, but we will still feel Unfulfilled.

- **B/c a Focus on ourself is NOT ENOUGH!!!**

2. Live on Purpose Externally.

A. The Drift of our Culture is toward INSULATION & Inward Focus.

- **Man was that true over the last 12 months!!!**

B. The world tells us that Focusing on US is the Key to Happiness & yet, the research proves otherwise.

- *MENTALFLOSS.COM: "Volunteering your time, money, or energy to help others doesn't just make the world better—it also makes you better. Studies indicate that the very act of giving back to the community boosts your happiness, health, and sense of well-being."*

- *"According to one study, people who suffered from chronic pain tried working as peer volunteers. As a result, they experienced a reduction in their own symptoms. "*

Look what Jesus said about it:

Matthew 6:25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?"

v. 27 "Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

C. Life is not meant to be lived just for us.

- The best life we can live is a life that goes beyond US & includes making an impact in others.

Matthew 4:19 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

- IOW, Get up, leave what you've been doing, & engage with something greater than yourself!!!

- Let your Life be about the Purpose of Making a Difference in Others!!!

D. MIP: ? What are you doing this year to make a difference in other people's lives?

- Get on a Serve Team.

- So many opportunities!!! - Why aren't you???

- Serve your City opportunities Every Month this year!

3. Live on Purpose Financially.

A. The Normal Thinking of our World is to Focus our Finances on Ourselves.

- Around here, we believe our lives should be 2 things: Healthy & High Impact!!!

- 2 SIDES OF A COIN - 2 LEGS OF A LADDER ILL.

B. It's not enough for our lives to be overly focused on one or the other!

- We must be focused on both!!!

C. This was the model of Jesus!

John 10:10 "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

D. MIP: ? So What does that mean for our Financial Lives this year?

1) Healthy Financially looks like:

A. Putting God First.

Proverbs 3:9 "Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops..."

B. Living on a budget.

- (Give every dollar a name / know where every dollar is going)

Proverbs 27:23 "Know well the condition of your flocks, and give attention to your herds..." (ESV)

C. Living on Less than you make.

Proverbs 21:20 "The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down." (ESV)

D. Having a Strategy for getting out of Debt.

Proverbs 22:7 "The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender."

- ROBERT MORRIS BOOK IN CAFE

2) High-Impact Financially looks like: Giving above & beyond to make a Kingdom Impact beyond yourself!

- Sarah & I love to give above and beyond every month!!
- So many of you have set that up and are doing that too through Kingdom Builders. (On our Website)

4. Live on Purpose Intentionally.

A. What the next 2 weeks are going to look like around here:

- Next Weekend: GYLB - Marriage Edition!
 - Last year has been incredibly hard on Marriages!
We are excited to help you GYLB in your Marriage this year!
- February 21st - Launching CC, Launching a New Series about Jesus!

B. 2/21 is INVITE SUNDAY at NLC at ALL 3 Locations!!!

- We want you to do 3 things:
 - 1) Pray.
 - 2) Participate. If you're not serving, we need you!
 - 3) Invite.
- Challenge: Don't come alone on February 21st!!!

- I remember last Super Bowl... I preached on Jesus & the Super Bowl!
- Anybody remember that???

MIP: ? Where will you be next Super Bowl Sunday???

- Your answer depends on how well you Live on Purpose in the next 12 months!!!

PRAY