



## II. God Has a Purpose For You

*Don't act thoughtlessly but try to find out and do whatever the Lord wants you to.  
Ephesians 5:17 (The Living Bible)*

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

*The feeling of being hurried is not usually the result of living a full life and having no time. It is, on the contrary, born of a vague fear that we are wasting our life. When we do not do the one thing we ought to do, we have no time for anything else — we are the busiest people in the world.  
Eric Hoffer*

## III. The Process of Developing Your Personal Mission

- A. \_\_\_\_\_. Ask \_\_\_\_\_ to reveal your specific mission.
- B. Be \_\_\_\_\_. It is usually a long process.
- C. Take time to \_\_\_\_\_ and examine your \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. Seek wise \_\_\_\_\_.
- E. Picture a \_\_\_\_\_ to assist you in the process.
- F. Make it \_\_\_\_\_ for you, not generic in nature.
- G. Don't aim for \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ at first.
- H. Remember, the \_\_\_\_\_ the better.
- I. Ask yourself the tough questions and be honest.
  - 1. What am I passionate about?
  - 2. What are my values and convictions?
  - 3. What do I want to be doing in ten years? Twenty years?

4. What are my strengths and weaknesses?
5. Am I fulfilled in my career?
6. What is the primary loyalty in my life?
7. What do I want to be remembered for?
8. What is the condition of my family life?
9. What am I willing to die for?
10. How willing am I to take a risk?
11. Who are the people I admire most, and why?
12. What are my greatest fears, and am I willing to give them to God?
13. What do others think I do well?
14. What opportunities do I have?
15. What burdens in life tug at my heart?

**J.** Share the journey with your \_\_\_\_\_ or closest friend.

**K.** Make sure your mission aligns with \_\_\_\_\_ principles and values.

**L.** Begin Writing!

"My purpose is to...."

### **Three Practical Insights About Your Purpose**

1. Your purpose may or may not be consistent with your professional career. The Apostle Paul was a tentmaker!
2. You will realize both fruit and joy as you live out your purpose. Fruit only is drudgery, and joy only can be shallow. You must have both. (John 15)
3. You will experience nearly endless energy. Your purpose will be like fuel to a jet and allow you to fly.

## **IV. Setting and Achieving Your Goals**

### **A. Defining goals**

A goal is a statement of faith about a specific event in the future.

A goal is measurable by:

1. Time (rate)
2. Performance (goal completed)

Goals and the achievement of goals are not the primary aims of life. "Your life is a journey, a process that never ends. You never "arrive"; you are always learning and always growing.

Your purpose statement, life values, and goals provide guidelines by which you live your life into God. They prevent chaos and, ultimately, a wasted life. They help provide a productive, meaningful existence.

### **B. The value of goals**

1. Goals motivate you. (Especially in tough times)
2. Goals help you realize your purpose.
3. Goals keep your priorities straight.
4. Goals channel and maximize your potential.
5. Goals give you power to live in the present.
6. Goals force you to plan ahead.
7. Goals promote enthusiasm in your life.

### **C. Ten steps to goal planning**

1. Prepare your goals in the framework of your biblical principles.
2. Make your goals realistic.
3. Write your goals down.
4. Make your goals specific.

5. Make the goals measurable.
6. Make sure the goals are your own.
7. Surround yourself with the people you need to accomplish your goals.
8. Ask: "Am I willing to pay the price?"
9. Reward yourself for the accomplishment.
10. Give God the glory.

Long-range goals: The first set of goals you write for as far out as you do the planning.

**D.** Six steps to achieve your goals

1. Attach a date to every goal.
2. Write down how you will accomplish your goals. (Strategy, plans, etc.)
3. Define the steps needed to accomplish these goals as your intermediate goals.
4. Go from general to more specific with your intermediate goals.
5. If you do not have intermediate goals, go directly to immediate goals (daily to-do list) from your long-range goals.
6. Rate your goals A, B, C, A-1, etc.

# **Application Guide**

## **Living On Purpose**

### **With a Sense of Personal Purpose and Vision**

#### **I. Establishing and Achieving Your Focus in Life**

**A.** What is the value of focus in your life?

**B.** Do you feel you are focused in your overall life direction and purpose? Explain.

**C.** On a scale of 1–10 do you find your current place in life fulfilling and meaningful — briefly explain.

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Don't Know What  
My Game Is

At The Top  
Of My Game

**D.** If you occasionally find your schedule "out of control," describe why you think that happens.

**E.** Write out your own definition of freedom. Then, describe how you can get it.

**F.** What prevents you from making the necessary commitment to becoming strongly "focused" on a clear direction and set of life values and priorities?

## II. The Values You Live By

You need a tall cup of coffee, probably several, to begin this process. Candidly, you won't get this done in one session or even in one month. But you can make great progress. The goal is to get a great start.

List out your personal values in life. Don't make the list too long. I can't tell you how many should be on your list, but I will offer a guideline to you. If you get more than 7–9, you probably have too many.

As you begin the process, don't write a mental "academic" list of what should be, but a set of values you are willing to die for. Think deep and be honest. Don't write to impress anyone. Instead, write what you want to live. Write what you are willing and committed to living.

Each value can be stated in a short phrase or a short sentence. These values will give you good insight into your mission. Your mission and your values must be in total alignment with each other.

You may want to add a scripture reference to each one.

Example:

1. Faith
2. Family
3. Integrity
4. Positive Attitude
5. Physical Fitness

**My values are...**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

### III. Writing Your Personal Purpose Statement

Start thinking, dreaming, "visioning," and praying about your own purpose statement.

Start by answering the question:

#### **WHY HAS GOD PUT ME ON THIS EARTH?**

Be sure not to answer, "to glorify and praise Him," etc. This, of course, is good, but that is everyone's (universal) purpose; it's a given. However, God has YOU here for a specific reason...for a specific (unique) purpose!!

Helpful Ideas:

1. Pray first...ask God for guidance.
2. Be brief — one sentence (the shorter, the better).
3. Make it specifically for you — not generic in nature.
4. Picture a decade (10-year span) to assist in the process.
5. Remember, it can be reshaped as you mature in Christ.
6. Don't worry about perfection; it can take a long time to develop.
7. Don't try to do it all in one sitting.

## Discover Your God-Given (Unique) Purpose

**Note:** Your Christian “universal” purpose is to love God and serve people. Your “unique” purpose falls under that ultimate purpose. Your unique purpose is answering that grand question — Why has God placed you here on planet earth? What has He created you to do?

**Questions:** These questions are a “snapshot” of affirmation, or lack thereof, of your purpose statement. They are not a primary tool in the development of your purpose, but they will give you insight into your purpose.

1. What can you do well? (Talent)
2. What do you want to do? (Desire)
3. What do you do well? (Results)
4. What do others think you do well? (Recognition)
5. What opportunities do you have? (Circumstances)
6. What do you enjoy doing? (Pleasure)



**D.** Write out one or two goals you set and didn't accomplish last year, and tell why you think you didn't accomplish each one.

**E.** Each of us has several different roles we must play as a man — listed are the primary roles.

- a. (Don't worry about right, wrong, or what anyone else thinks; just *write* goals that *you* really *want* to achieve!)
- b. Note: You are likely not to be working on all of these goals at the same time.

- Son of God
- Husband
- Dad
- Friend
- Provider