Introduction: “There is no one who is insignificant in the purpose of God." **Alistair Begg**

**Finding Purpose in God’s plans.**

## **Paul stopped destroying God’s good name! Acts 9:21**

* **Everyone is building something, we are either building away from God or towards God!**
* **What do you think of when I say Bat? Shoes? Car? Then what about Rules?**
* **Proverbs 29:1 “He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.**
* **Often Reproved – always testing God.**
* **Hardening your neck – always ignoring God.**
* **Suddenly destroyed – always not knowing what happened.**
* **Without remedy – always too late.**

## **Paul wanted more of Christ than anything else. Acts 9:22**

* **Philippians 3:8 “Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ. How did Paul see God’s plans?**
* **#1 Without doubt – always confirming His heart.**
* **#2 I see Christ as surpassing value in comparison to other things-always seeing the value of God first mindset.**
* **#3 I willing to go without other things to win the love of the Lord Jesus- always in love with the Lord Jesus.**

## **Paul wasn’t afraid to die. Acts 9:23-25**

* **Colossians 3:3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. How are we to understand death?**
* **The Child of God has no more fear of death –**
* **1 Cor. 15:55 “O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?**
* **The Child of God has no more failures in life. – Someone said “ Life isn’t about finding yourself it is about Discovering who God created you to be!”**
* **1 Thess. 5:24 “Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.**
* **God is calling you, equipping you, preparing you, according to His purpose!**
* **The Child of God has a great future waiting for them –**
* **Isaiah 43:19 “Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.**
* **Corrie Ten Boom “Never be afraid to trust the unknown future to the all-knowing God.”**

## **Paul had friends to risk their lives –Acts 9:25-27**

* Proverbs 22:1 “A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.
* Value a friend’s friendship more than valuing fading money.
* Friendship will last a lifetime – money comes and go.
* Proverbs 27:9 “Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.
* Friends tell friends good and honest biblical counsel.
* Don’t lie to your friends about what they need to do.
* Friends can tell friends anything and still be friends.

## **Paul loved people. – Acts 9:29**

* **Love isn’t just being nice and kind – Love is going though rough waters with someone to the end.**
* **Love suffers long and is patient –**
* **Ephesians 2:4 “But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith he loved us,**
* **How is God rich in mercy and great in love?**
* **Someone said “ God’s love is like the ocean you can see its beginning but not its end.”**
* **“I deserve nothing but God gives me everything!”**
* **Is this how we love God back and love others?**

## **Seek to edify others and live in the fear of God then we will see God’s comfort in all things. Acts 9:31**

* **Psa. 119:128 “Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way. Put God’s Word First in your life and trust God’s Word more than anything.**
* **Are you ready to build God’s kingdom? Are you loving Jesus Christ more than things of the world? Are you afraid of death? Do you have close friends that will encourage you to stay faithful to God? Do you love people souls and where they are going when they die?**