

Purpose



You are a "lighthouse" that shines in the darkness leading others to Jesus (Matthew 5:14–16)

As the Holy Spirit of God spoke to the followers of Jesus in the Gospel of John, He continues to speak to us today. In the last lesson, we discussed our "Identity" and found that it is rooted in knowing who we are as God's children. I must submit to you today that our purpose in life is not absent of our identity. Many people do not want to put forth the effort in spending time with God for Him to bring the fullness of the revelation, but it will not come forth apart from the relationship God intended for us to have with Him.

Let's look at what the Word of God speaks to us, "His children" from John 10:27-30

My sheep <u>listen</u> to my <u>voice</u>, I <u>recognize</u> them, they <u>follow</u> me, and I give them <u>eternal life</u>. They will <u>absolutely never be destroyed</u>, and no one will <u>snatch</u> them from my hands. <u>My Father</u>, who gave them to me, is <u>greater</u> than all; and no one can snatch them from the Father's hands. I and the Father are one."

Stop here for a moment and allow the Holy Spirit to bring clear revelation about what the Scriptures are saying to you personally. I pose these questions to you for consideration, "Why desire to live eternally with a God who you do not want to spend time with today? And "What is your sole purpose in giving your life to Jesus but to



become His Beloved?" The truth is God created us so He can have relationship with us as He does with His Son, Yeshua (Jesus). We are created for THIS relationship.

If you are spending your Christian life "doing" instead of "being," and "becoming" you have got it wrong. Have you heard it said that we are human "beings", not human "doings"? If you have the courage and you desire to submit your "doings" before the Father who longs for an intimate relationship with you, place your "doings" on the altar. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you every area of your life where you have allowed busyness and superficial fillers to take the place of His intimacy. Do you want a deeper, meaningful, purposeful life? If so, let us continue to look at the Scriptures together allowing our Teacher, the Holy Spirit of God, to be our Guide.



APrayer for you, Child of God!

(Isaiah 43:6-7, Ephesians 2:10 & Galatians 5:22)



Father,

Today I lift up every person reading these words. I ask You, Holy Spirit, to breathe life into their being and over every dry place. Remove the fog that would keep them separated from intimate relationship with You, Heavenly Father. I say now to every force of darkness and every spirit of bondage: "to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Don't hold them back! Bring God's sons from far away, and His daughters from the ends of the earth, everyone who bears His name, whom He created for His glory —He formed them, yes, He made them." For we are of God's making, created in union with the Messiah Yeshua for a life of good actions already prepared by God for us to do.

Therefore, Holy Spirit, awaken every heart to this reality. Dissolve the cords of rejection, orphan spirit, loneliness, brokenness and shame. Cultivate in us love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control; which is the fruit produced out of an intimate relationship with You. Transform our lives so we will live to bring glory to our Father as we walk the earth as <u>Sons of God</u>.

In Jesus Name, Amen!





Our reading is coming from the 1st chapter of John (*verses referenced*). I have highlighted the verses that speak about the purpose of John the Baptizer, Jesus, Andrew, Peter, Phillip and Nathaniel. Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to the purpose for which you were created. Just a reminder, your "calling" is unique to you, but here we are dealing with "purpose".

Day 1 Reading

John the Baptizer (John 1:6-8, 15, 19-23, 29-36)

There was a man sent from God whose name was Yochanan (John). He came to be a testimony, to bear witness concerning the light; so that through him, everyone might put his trust in God and be faithful to him. He himself was not that light; no, he came to bear witness concerning the light. Yochanan (John) witnessed concerning him when he cried out, "This is the man I was talking about when I said, "The one coming after me has come to rank ahead of me, because he existed before me." Here is Yochanan's testimony: when the Judeans sent cohanim (priests) and L'vi'im (Levites) from Yerushalayim (Jerusalem) to ask him, "Who are you?" he was very straightforward and stated clearly, "I am not the Messiah." "Then who are you?" they asked him. "Are you Eliyahu (Elijah)?" "No, I am not," he said. "Are you 'the prophet,' the one we're expecting?" "No," he replied. So they said to him, "Who are you? — so that we can give an answer to the people who sent us. What do you have to say about yourself?" He answered in the words of Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) the prophet, "I am

The voice of someone crying out: 'In the desert make the way of ADONAI (Lord)straight!'"



The next day, Yochanan (John) saw Yeshua (Jesus) coming toward him and said, "Look! God's lamb! The one who is taking away the sin of the world! This is the man I was talking about when I said, 'After me is coming someone who has come to rank above me, because he existed before me.' I myself did not know who he was, but the reason I came immersing with water was so that he might be made known to Isra'el." Then Yochanan (John) gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit coming down from heaven like a dove, and remaining on him. I myself did not know who he was, but the one who sent me to immerse in water said to me, "The one on whom you see the Spirit descending and remaining, this is the one who immerses in the Ruach HaKodesh. (Holy Spirit)' And I have seen and borne witness that this is the Son of God." The next day, Yochanan (John) was again standing with two of his talmidim (disciples). On seeing Yeshua (Jesus) walking by, he said, "Look! God's lamb!"

Day 1 Questions

What was the purpose of John the Baptizer?

What is the Holy Spirit speaking to you about your purpose?

Day 2 Reading

Jesus (John 1:1-5, 9-14, 16-18)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing made had being. In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not suppressed it. This was the true light, which gives light to everyone entering the world. He was in the world — the world came to be through him —yet the world did not know him. He came to his own homeland yet his own people did not receive him. But to as many as did receive him, to those who put their trust in his person and power, he gave the right to become children of God, not because of bloodline, physical impulse or human intention, but because of God. The Word became a human being and lived with us, and we saw his Sh'khinah (glory), the Sh'khinah (glory) of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. We have all received from his fullness, yes, grace upon grace.



For the Torah (law) was given through Moshe (Moses); grace and truth came through Yeshua (Jesus) the Messiah. No one has ever seen God; but the only and unique Son, who is identical with God and is at the Father's side — he has made him known.

Day 2 Questions

What was the purpose of Jesus coming to earth?

What is the Holy Spirit speaking to you about your purpose as it relates to Jesus?

Day 3 Reading

The Disciples:

Andrew (John 1:37-42)

His (John's) two talmidim (disciples) heard him speaking, and they followed Yeshua (Jesus). Yeshua (Jesus) turned and saw them following him, and he asked them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi!" (Which means "Teacher!") "Where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and remained with him the rest of the day — it was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who had heard Yochanan (John) and had followed Yeshua (Jesus) was Andrew the brother of Shim'on Kefa. The first thing he did was to find his brother Shim'on and tell him, "We've found the Mashiach (Messiah)!" (The word means "one who has been anointed.") He took him to Yeshua (Jesus)

Peter (John 1:42)

Looking at him, Yeshua (Jesus) said, "You are Shim'on Bar-Yochanan (Simeon son of John); you will be known as Kefa (Peter)." (The name means "rock.")

Phillip (John 1:43-45)



The next day, having decided to leave for the Galil (Galilee), Yeshua (Jesus) found Philip and said, "Follow me!" Philip was from Beit-Tzaidah (the house of Bethsaida), the town where Andrew and Kefa (Peter) lived. Philip found Natan'el (Nathaniel) and told him, "We've found the one that Moshe (Moses) wrote about in the Torah (Law), also the Prophets — it's Yeshua Ben-Yosef (Jesus Son of Joseph) from Natzeret (Nazereth)!"

Nathaniel (John 1:46-51)

Natan'el (Nathaniel) answered him, "Natzeret (Nazareth)? Can anything good come from there?" "Come and see," Philip said to him. Yeshua (Jesus) saw Natan'el (Nathaniel) coming toward him and remarked about him, "Here's a true son of Isra'el — nothing false in him!" Natan'el (Nathaniel) said to him, "How do you know me?" Yeshua (Jesus) answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Natan'el (Nathaniel) said, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Isra'el!" Yeshua (Jesus) answered him, "you believe all this just because I told you I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than that!" Then he said to him, "Yes indeed! I tell you that you will see heaven opened and the angels of God going up and coming down on the Son of Man!"

Day 3 Questions

What took place in the lives of Andrew, Peter, Phillip and Nathaniel upon encountering Jesus?

What took place (and is taking place) in your life upon encountering Jesus? Are you serving the purpose of a disciple? If so, how? If not, why?



What's Your Story?

Are you willing to become a disciple of Jesus Christ and disciple others? What gifts and talents has God placed inside of you to make disciples? Remember, everything you do should point others to Jesus Christ alone.

Click here to take the spiritual gift survey.

Read <u>Proverbs 1:20-2:15</u> and journal what the Holy Spirit highlights that is needed in your life.





Compassion (Matthew 9:36)-Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were troubled and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Love (John 15:13) - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Servant (Matthew 20:28) - just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Forgiveness (John 8:4-11)- "Teacher," they said to Jesus, "this woman was caught in the act of adultery. 5 The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?" 6 They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. 7 They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, "All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!"8 Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust. 9 When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. 10 Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, "Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?" 11 "No, Lord," she said. And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more

Gentle & Humble (Matthew 11:28-30)-28 "Come to me, all of you who are struggling and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.[a] 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Patient (2 Peter 3:9)-The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some people think of slowness; on the contrary, he is patient with you; for it is not his purpose that anyone should be destroyed, but that everyone should turn from his sins