

## What is God's plan (purpose) for you?

➤ = next PowerPoint slide

### ➤ Intro:

- **God has always had a plan for His children** – His plan for us has been from all eternity
  - **illus.: Jer. 29:10-11** God, “I know the **plans** that I have for you” (KJ, ASV, thoughts)
    - Hebrew means *thoughts, plans, purpose*
- **What is the Master's master plan for your life?**
  - What is the purpose of my life - for living?

### ➤ God's plan is to accomplish those things He's predestined

- **Acts 2:23a** God's **plan** (NASB) is what He's **predestined**
- **Acts 4:28** God's **predestined** (NASB) those things which He's **purposed**
- **To ask, what is God's plan for my life**, is to ask. . . .
  - **What is God's purpose** for your life?
  - **What has God predestined** for me?
- **God's plan for us is to do what He has purposed (predestined), but it's up to us as to whether we'll do that or not**
  - **illus.: Lk. 7:30** scribes and Pharisees rejected the **purpose of God** (NKJV, will of God) by rejecting the preaching and baptism of John

### ➤ God's purpose for man is communicated in His word – Master's mast plan is revealed in His word

- **purpose:** (*prothesis*) setting forth of a thing, a deliberate intention
- **God reveals His purpose to man in His word** – the things He has set forth
  - **Jer. 29:10-11** “fulfill My good word” (vs. 10)
  - **Acts 20:27** Paul, preach, declared the **whole purpose** of God
    - **God communicates to us through His word**, so the **manner in which He communicates His purpose for us is through His word** (1 Cor. 2:10-16)
  - **illus.: Lk. 4:42; Jn. 12:27** Jesus came for the **purpose of preaching and dying for our sins** on the cross, all according to **God's word**
  - **illus.: What is God's plan for the South Livingston congregation?** – do His will - word
- **to know God's plan for our life**, we must **go to His word and learn what He commands us to do**
  - **God doesn't talk with us personally**, as some people claim today – **illus.: God told me to start a church...**
  - **cf. Calvinism**, born in sin, God makes people get saved
- **whether I fulfill God's plan for my life is up to me** – whether I obey Him or not

- God's purpose (plan) is for us to **obey the gospel** – Master's master plan - gospel - obey
  - **Rom. 8:28, 29-30** God's purpose for us is to **respond to His call** – obey the gospel
  - **2 Th. 2:14** called through the gospel
  
  - we must obey the gospel to fulfill God's plan (purpose) for our lives
  
  - God's plan for me is to obey the gospel
    - my job is to learn and understand the gospel, and obey it
  
- God's purpose (plan) is for us to be **saved** – Master's master plan - gospel - obey, saved
  - **2 Tim. 1:9** God saves us, according to His grace and purpose, granted us **in Christ** from all eternity
  - **1 Tim. 2:4** God wants **everyone to be saved**
  - **2 Pet. 3:9** God doesn't want anyone to perish, but for **everyone to repent**
  
  - God's plan for me is to obey the gospel so I'm saved from my sins
    - God doesn't want me to spend eternity in hell - He wants me to repent and obey
    - my job is to learn and understand the gospel, repent and obey, so I'm saved
  
- God's purpose (plan) is for us to be **sanctified (holy) and godly** – Master's master plan - gospel - obey, sanctified, holy, godly
  - **1 Th. 4:7** called us to follow Him, and be **sanctified (holy)**
    - **sanctified (holy):** separation to God, resulting in conduct befitting a person who has separated himself in service to God – come out of the world and reverently live the way God commands
  
- - **1 Tim. 4:7b** discipline self for **purpose of godliness**
  - **godliness:** reverence toward God – obey, live in reverence to God, godly
  
- - **when we obey the gospel, the result is holiness and godliness** – Master's master plan for us
  - **1 Pet. 1:1b-2a; 15-16** chosen, foreknowledge, sanctifying work of Spirit, **obey, holy** for God is holy
    - obey gospel, holy (sanctified)
  - **2 Pet. 1:2-3, 4b** knowledge, everything pertaining to life and **godliness, divine nature**
    - obey gospel, godly
    - God's plan for us is revealed in His word
  
  - God's plan for me is to obey the gospel so I'm holy and godly
    - my job is to learn and understand the gospel, obey, so I'm holy and godly

➤ God's purpose (plan) is for us to **patiently endure when we suffer** – Master's master plan - gospel - obey, patiently endure

- **1 Pet. 2:20-21** **patiently endure suffering**, like Christ – picture: Jesus on cross, cf. our trials

- **1 Pet. 4:1** since **Christ suffered** in the flesh, **arm yourselves** also with the **same purpose**, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin

- **God's plan for me is to obey the gospel and endure** (bear up as a matter of determined will) **when we suffer**

- **my job** is obey and patiently endure, trusting in God and His power in my life

➤ God's purpose (plan) is for us to go to **heaven, eternal inheritance** – Master's master plan - gospel - obey, heaven, eternal life, inherit a blessing

- **2 Cor. 5:1-5** be **clothed, mortal swallowed up by life**

- **Eph. 1:10b-11** obtained **inheritance, predestined, God's purpose**

- **1 Pet. 3:9** God calls us for **purpose of inheriting a blessing**

- **God's plan for me is to obey the gospel and live for eternity in heaven, inherit a blessing**

- **my job** is to obey the gospel so I go to heaven, inherit the blessing

➤ **Therefore, we have a purposeful life**

- **2 Tim. 3:10a follow Paul, purposeful life** – purpose for living and doing what we do  
- **purpose:** do the will of God, obey the gospel

- **warning:** false teachers say we have a **different purpose** – which we would expect

- **Rick Warren** in his book, “What On Earth Am I Here For?” which is a republication of the 1<sup>st</sup> 7 chapters of “Purpose Driven Life”

- **quoted from pages 26-27**

- **One day you will stand before God**, and he will do an **audit of your life**, a final exam, before you enter eternity. The Bible says, “Remember, each of us will stand personally before the **judgment** seat of God. . . . Yes, each of us will have to give a personal account to God.” **Fortunately, God wants us to pass this test, so he has given us the questions in advance. From the Bible we can surmise that God will ask us two crucial questions:**

- **First, “What did you do with my Son, Jesus Christ?”** **God won't ask about your religious background or your doctrinal views.** The **only thing that will matter is, did you accept what Jesus did for you and did you learn to love and trust him?** Jesus said, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” God wants you to get to know, love, and trust his Son, Jesus, whom he sent to earth to show us what God is like and to forgive and save us.

- **Second, “What did you do with your life?”** **What did you do with all that God gave you** — all your gifts, talents, opportunities, energy, relationships, and resources? Did you spend them on yourself, or did you use them to fulfill God's purposes for your life?

- **Preparing you for these two questions is the goal of this booklet.** **The first question will determine where you spend eternity** — with God or separated from God. **The second question will determine what you do in eternity** — your responsibilities and rewards in heaven. By the end of this booklet you will be ready to answer both questions.

- **quoted from pages 56-58**

- **Right now God is inviting you** to live for his glory by fulfilling the purposes he made you for. It's really the only way to live. Everything else is just existing. **Real life begins by committing yourself completely to Jesus Christ.** If you are not sure you have done this, **all you need to do is receive and believe.** The Bible promises, “To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” Will you accept God's offer?

- **First, believe.** **Believe** God loves you and made you for his purposes. Believe you're not an accident. Believe you were made to last forever. Believe God has chosen you to have a relationship with Jesus, who died on the cross for you. Believe that no matter what you've done, God wants to forgive you. Ask him to forgive you and help you change—and he will!

- **Second, receive.** **Receive Jesus Christ into your life** by allowing him to become your Lord (manager, boss, the one in control) and Savior (who died to pay the penalty for everything you've ever done wrong). **Receive his forgiveness** for your sins. **Receive his purpose** and peace. Receive his power to help you fulfill your life purpose. The Bible says, “Whoever accepts and trusts the Son gets in on everything, life complete and forever!”

- **Right now**, regardless of where you are reading this, I invite you **to bow your head and quietly whisper the prayer** that will change your eternity: “Jesus, I believe in you and I receive you. Thank you for dying on the cross to pay for all my sins. As much as I know how, I ask you to come into my life and help me learn to know you, trust you, and love you.” Go ahead.

- **If you sincerely meant that prayer, congratulations! Welcome to the family of God!** You are now ready to discover and start living God's purpose for your life. I urge you to tell someone about it.

You're going to need support. If you will visit the website [www.purposedrivenlife.com](http://www.purposedrivenlife.com), or email [info@purposedrivenlife.com](mailto:info@purposedrivenlife.com), you can tell me of your decision, and I'll send you some free material to get you started on your new spiritual journey.

- **our purpose in life is the one the Master (God) has set forth**, and communicated in His word
  - **2 Tim. 3:10** follow apostles, teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance
    - not false teachers
  - **2 Tim. 3:16-17** found in the Scripture: teaching (doctrine), reproof, correction, training in righteousness, man of equipped for every good work
    - **2 Tim. 3:5, 6-7, 8-8** context
  
- **then, all of our personal plans and decisions are constructed around** accomplishing the Master's mast plan in our life
  - **Ja. 4:15** if the Lord wills. . . .

### Summary / Inv.

- **What is the Master's master plan for your life?**
  - **What is the purpose of my life** - for living?
  
- **review PP** – The Master's master plan
  - God's purpose communicated in His word – obey gospel, saved, sanctified, holy, godly, patiently endure when suffering, home in heaven
  
- **inv.:** if you don't have purpose in life, or don't have the right purpose in life. . . .