

**Campus Church of Christ Jail Ministry**  
**Series 1: Lesson # 9**  
**“Created to Become Like Christ”, Part A**  
**from *The Purpose Driven Life*<sup>1</sup>**

**Key Points summary from previous lessons**

It is not about me!

- I was born *by* God’s purpose and *for* His purpose.
- God planned every person; no one was born by “accident”.
- I discover my meaning and purpose only when God is the reference point of my life.
- Living with purpose is living with peace.
  - My lifetime on earth is only a moment of my lifetime in eternity.
  - Life on earth is a dress rehearsal for eternity.
  - My view of life determines how I will live my life.
  - Life on earth is both a test and a trust.
  - Life on earth is a temporary assignment.
  - It is all for Him!

I was created by God for His pleasure.

**My 1<sup>st</sup> purpose: to bring glory to God.**

- Anything I do that brings glory and pleasure to God is worship.
- If I do not worship God, I will worship something else.
- Worship is a result of being in love with Jesus.
- Worship is not a part of my life; it must BE my life.
- Five ways to worship God that please Him:
  - Love Him.
  - Trust Him.
  - Obey Him.
  - Praise and thank Him.
  - Be ourselves.
- The heart of worship is surrender.
- Fear, pride, and confusion get in the way of our surrender.
- The blessings of surrender include: peace, freedom, God’s power in our life.
- God wants to be my best friend.
- I become best friends with God
  - by constant conversation, i.e. prayer.
  - by mediation on His Word.
  - by being completely honest.
  - by choosing to obey in faith.
  - by choosing to value what God values.
  - by making it my highest priority.
- I am as close to God as I choose to be.
- God wants all of me – heart, soul, mind, and strength
- God is pleased with my worship . . .

- if it comes from my spirit; i.e. it is authentic
- when it is done according to truth; i.e. it is accurate according to the Bible
- if it is thoughtful; i.e. I am mentally engaged
- when it is a "living sacrifice"; i.e. it costs me something
- God is real no matter how I feel.
- It is my faith, not my feelings, that pleases God.
- Trust God to keep His promises.

God made me for His family.

**My 2<sup>nd</sup> purpose: to love God and love others, especially His family.**

- Being a member of God's family is a choice I make.
- My only access to being in God's family is through Jesus.
- Baptism is not optional.
- Being a member of God's family includes great benefits.
- Life without love is worthless.
- Love will last forever.
- The best expression of love is time.
- The best time to love is now.
- I'm called to belong, not just believe.
- I need others and they need me.
- God wants us to learn to live in harmony and unity with all of His family while on earth in preparation for living that way in heaven.
- Having loving relationships requires commitment.
- Conflicts are a natural part of relationships.
- When conflicts are handled correctly, we grow closer to each other.
- Reconciliation focuses on the relationship while resolution focuses on the problem.
- We must do everything in our power to be peacemakers.
- Nothing on earth is more valuable to God than His Church.

## **Day 22: I was created to become like Christ**

How does it make you feel to recognize that you were made in the image and likeness of God? (**Gen.1:26**)

In what four ways are we created like Him?

1. Your spirit is immortal. You are a \_\_\_\_\_ being.
2. You can reason and think. You are an \_\_\_\_\_ being.
3. You are relational. You can \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ love.
4. You have a moral compass. You know \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_.

Although we are like God in many ways, sin has damaged our image so much that we may no longer look like Him. \_\_\_\_\_ came to earth to show and teach us how to look like Him.

We are not on earth to become \_\_\_\_\_; we are here to develop His \_\_\_\_\_.

What does the statement, "Earth is not heaven", mean to you after our discussion tonight?

\_\_\_\_\_ is the key that unlocks the power of the Holy Spirit. It is His job to make the changes that need to be made in us.

We must make the \_\_\_\_\_ to obey Him and let Him mold us. God uses the Bible, His people and our circumstances to mold us into His character.

To allow Him to mold us we must let go of our \_\_\_\_\_ ways, change the way that we \_\_\_\_\_ and change our \_\_\_\_\_. God will help us do this!

Growing spiritually takes \_\_\_\_\_. It will take all our lives.

Growing spiritually also takes \_\_\_\_\_. We can't just sit back waiting for the growth to happen.

### **Taking it further:**

To find Biblical examples of the kind of character He wants us to have, study the Beatitudes in **Matthew 5:1-3**, Paul's "love chapter" in **1Corinthians 13**, the Fruit of the Spirit (When we look like Him we'll have these things in our lives.) in **Galatians 5:22-23**, and Peter's list of a productive Christian life in **2Peter 1:5-8**.

### **Other Verses to study:**

Genesis 6:9

Psalm 139:13-16

James 3:9

Ephesians 4:22-24

John 10:10

Colossians 1:27

Romans 12:2

1 John 3:2

**Prayer focus:** "Father God, thank you for creating me in your image. Please help me each day, Lord, to look more and more like your own son. Thank you for sending your Holy Spirit to help mold me. Please, God, make me dead to my old ways and alive to Your ways. Take away discouragement, for that is the Devil's talk. Put people in my path to help me, and a desire to study Your word in my heart. Help me to be a good example for others. I want to obey you even when it is hard." In Jesus' name, Amen.

**Verse to remember: 2Corinthians3:18b** (NLT)

*As the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like Him and reflect His glory even more.*

**Focus Point:** I was created to become like Christ.

**To reflect on:** In what area of my life do I need to ask the Spirit's power to become more like Christ today?

What can I do today to move toward that goal?

### **Day 23: God wants us to grow up.**

Just as earthly fathers expect children to grow up, so does God, our Heavenly Father! We can measure that growth, not on a yardstick, but on how much more we are like Jesus, day to day. We learned that to grow spiritually we must want to grow, decide to grow, make an effort to grow and persist in growing. It takes commitment, but it is never too late to start growing!

**2 Peter 3:11** puts this into perspective. Write your understanding of this verse below.

God has a part (as the Holy Spirit *working in* us and as we meditate on the Bible), and we have a part (*working out* our salvation.) **Philippians 2:12-13**. We partially explained God's part by considering a butterfly. In light of today's lesson, how can looking at a butterfly encourage you in your spiritual growth?

What things can *you* do today to begin *working out* your salvation?

We learned that actions follow thoughts. How can the computer term, "garbage in, garbage out", be applied to our human thoughts and actions?

What do **Romans 8:5** and **1Corinthians 13:11** tell us about the way we should think?

Name some areas in your life in which you could *stop* thinking your way and *start* thinking God's way.

**Verse to remember: Romans 12:2b**

*Let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God---what is good and is pleasing to Him and is perfect.*

**Other verses to study:**

1 Corinthians 13

1 Corinthians 14:20

Romans 8:5

Ephesians 4:14a

Matthew 9:9

Revelation 2:23

Ephesians 4:15a

**Focus Point:** It is never too late to start growing!

**Prayer Focus:** Dear God, please work in me to make me a new person that looks like Jesus. Help me to work out what needs to change in my life, and please give me the strength to do these things. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**To reflect on:** What is one specific way that I can start to become a *new me* today?

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**References:**

- <sup>1</sup> Warren, Rick. ***The Purpose Driven Life***. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.  
<sup>2</sup> Warren, Rick. ***The Purpose Driven Life Prayer Journal***. Inspirio, 2002.
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This lesson was prepared for you and presented by volunteers from Campus Church of Christ. We believe that the Bible is the holy, inspired, Word of God in which He has revealed to us Himself, His love and His plan for us. We teach no other doctrine than that found in the Bible, and we ask that you examine all teaching from us or anyone else to be sure that it is accurate according to the Bible.

If you are looking for a church family with whom to worship and to grow in your faith, we invite you to Campus Church of Christ, 1525 Indian Trail Rd., Norcross, GA 30093. You may visit us online at [www.campuschurch.org](http://www.campuschurch.org). Sunday morning worship services are at 8:30 and 11:00. We have Bible classes for all ages at 9:45. Sunday evening, we meet at 6:00 and Wednesday evening at 7:00.

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**Notes:**