



**“On Purpose” Part 1  
Pastor Notes Week I**

“The two most important days in your life are the day you were born and the day you discovered why.”  
-Mark Twain

Three important questions you can ask yourself.

1. The question of existence – Why am I alive?
2. The question of significance – Does my life matter?
3. The question of intention. What’s my purpose?

1. The question of existence – Why am I alive?  
Jeremiah 20:18 NIV “Why was I born? Was it only to have trouble and sorrow and to end my life in disgrace?”

Secular options for discovering how life is defined.

- The Mystical Approach.  
Look deep inside yourself and there you’ll find the purpose of life.

You were created therefore you have to look out to your creator to find the answer to the questions of existence – significance – intention.

- The Self Help Approach / Create your own purpose
- The Philosophical Approach.  
“I don’t know the meaning and purpose of life but it looks as if something were meant by it.”

Proverbs 19:21a ESV “21 Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.”

Proverbs 16:4 GW “The Lord has made everything for His own purpose.”

Ephesians 1:4 NLT “4 Even before He made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. 5 God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure.”

2. The question of significance – Does my life matter.  
Isaiah 49:4 NLT “My work all seems so useless. I have spent my strength for nothing and for no purpose at all.”

How do you find significance?

- Knowing how much you matter to God gives you significance.
- Living out the purpose for your existence gives you significance.
- Understanding that the meaning of life gives significance.

Isaiah 44:2a TLB “I am your creator. You were in My care even before you were born.”

Psalm 139:16 TLB “16 You (GOD) saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in your book!”

Psalm 33:11 NIV “His plans endure forever. His purposes last eternally.”

II Corinthians 5:1 TEV “When this tent we live in, our body here on earth, is torn down God will have a house in heaven for us to live in, a home that He Himself has made which will last forever.”

3. The question of intention - What is my purpose?  
Psalm 89:47 NCV “Remember how short life is. Why did you create us? For nothing?”

“Unless you assume the existence of a God the question of the meaning and purpose of life is irrelevant.” Bertrand Russell

Proverbs 9:10 LB “Knowing God results in every other kind of understanding.”

Colossians 1:16 NIV “16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

Eph. 1:11 MSG “It is in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for, part of the overall purpose He is working out in everything and everyone.”

Acts 10:34-35 MSG “God plays no favorites! It makes no difference who you are or where you’re from. If you want God and you’re ready to do as He says the door is open.”

“It’s never too late to be who you might have been.”  
George Eliot





## “On Purpose” Part 1

### Small Group Discussion Week I

Share your names & how you connected with TFC

**Objective:** Gain understanding of  
God’s design & purpose

#### Life’s three most important questions.

- The question of Existence / Why am I alive?
- The question of Significance / Does my life matter?
- The question of Intention / What is my Purpose?

#### Q. If you were asked: Why are you here? Does your life matter? or What is your purpose in life? How would you respond?

Q. In Proverbs 16:4a (GW) Solomon the wisest man who ever lived said, “The Lord has made everything for His purpose” **How do you think God was including you in His grand purpose?**

“Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future. Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.” –Proverbs 19:20-21 (ESV)

#### Q. What do you think the meaning of this verse is?

“For in him (Jesus) all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and **for him.**” –Colossians 1:16 (NIV)

#### Q. Can a person design his or her own purpose?

Share your thoughts on the three common approaches to discovering purpose.

- Mystical Approach / Introspectively, look inside to find the purpose of your life.
- Self help approach / Invent your own purpose.
- Philosophical approach / Who knows! “I don’t know the meaning and purpose of life but it looks as if something were meant by it.” –Philosopher, Carl Jung

Respond to this quote from Bertrand Russell, a self-proclaimed atheist.

- “Unless you assume the existence of a God, the question of the meaning and purpose of life is irrelevant.”

God made you to love and much more. John 4:9-10 (MSG) “This is how God showed his love for us: God sent his only Son into the world so we might live through him. This is the kind of love we are talking about—not that we once upon a time loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to clear away our sins and the damage they’ve done to our relationship with God.”

#### Q. How does it make you feel to know you were made for love?

Respond to this quote: “It’s never too late to be who you might have been.” –George Herbert

