

BRINGING THE BIBLE TO LIFE

DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES



WHAT IS MY
PURPOSE IN LIFE?

Track I.4
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What's Wrong with this Picture?



When I Don't "See" Purpose



Results of Living Apart from Designed Purpose

EMOTIONS – Depression; Sadness, melancholy, emptiness, fear, isolation;

MIND - Lack of fulfillment; sense of failure; demanding answers that cannot be found; seeking to please man, not God; seeking identity, fulfillment (purpose), acceptance (identity) in something other than God

WILL - feeling-oriented decisions; taking control- stepping into God's 'arena'; avoiding conflict, pain, hardship, rejection

The Gospel Provides Perspective in God's Purposes



Know Your Purpose

- Life gains **meaning**
- **Endurance** in adversity
- Overcome **fear**
- Overcome **temptations**
- Gain **hope & Joy** in trial

Ja. 1:2-4...it's been different. Trials are assumed, I'm not surprised, disciplined to preach vs. "listen", focused on my response, know purpose brings joy, God loves me, cares for me & wants me to grow



Perspective and Purpose

- Why was Joseph sold into Egypt?
- Why was Joseph blessed in Potiphar's house? Gen.39:3
- Why was Joseph punished? Gen.39
- Why was Joseph not killed by Potiphar (like most men would have been?)
- Why was Joseph well-treated in prison? Gen.39:21
- Why was Joseph given an opportunity to interpret dreams? Gen.40:4
- Why was Joseph able to speak for God? Gen.40:8
- Why was Joseph ready to stand before Pharaoh? Gen.41:14ff
- What was Joseph's view of all of his years of hardship? Gen. 45:5; Gen. 50:19-20
- How does Joseph's life reflect the life of Christ?
- How does what you've learned from Joseph encourage you to endure hardship?

[19] But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? [20] As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. (Gen. 50:19-20 ESV)

Gospel Perspectives

God is Sovereign!

- Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.
(Ps. 115:3 ESV)
- Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps. (Ps. 135:6 ESV)
- [9] Remember the former things of old: for I [am] God, and [there is] none else; [I am] God, and [there is] none like me, [10] Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times [the things] that are not [yet] done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: (Is. 46:9-10 KJV)

Gospel Perspectives

God Made and Owns Everything

[15] [Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. [16] For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things were created through him and for him. (Col 1:15-16 ESV)

[17] And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. [18] And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. (Col 1:17-18 ESV)

Gospel Perspectives

God Creates & Determines Our Purposes

- Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written (Deut.6:13), ““You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”” (Matt. 4:10 ESV)
- everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.” (Is. 43:7 ESV)
- ...walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. (Col. 1:10 ESV)

Gospel Perspectives

Man is Fallen & Opposed to God

- And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, Col 1:21 ESV
- **By Nature** [3] among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. (Eph. 2:3 ESV)
- **In Attitudes** ..."God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Ja. 4:6b ESV
- **In Actions** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Rom. 3:23 ESV

Gospel Perspectives

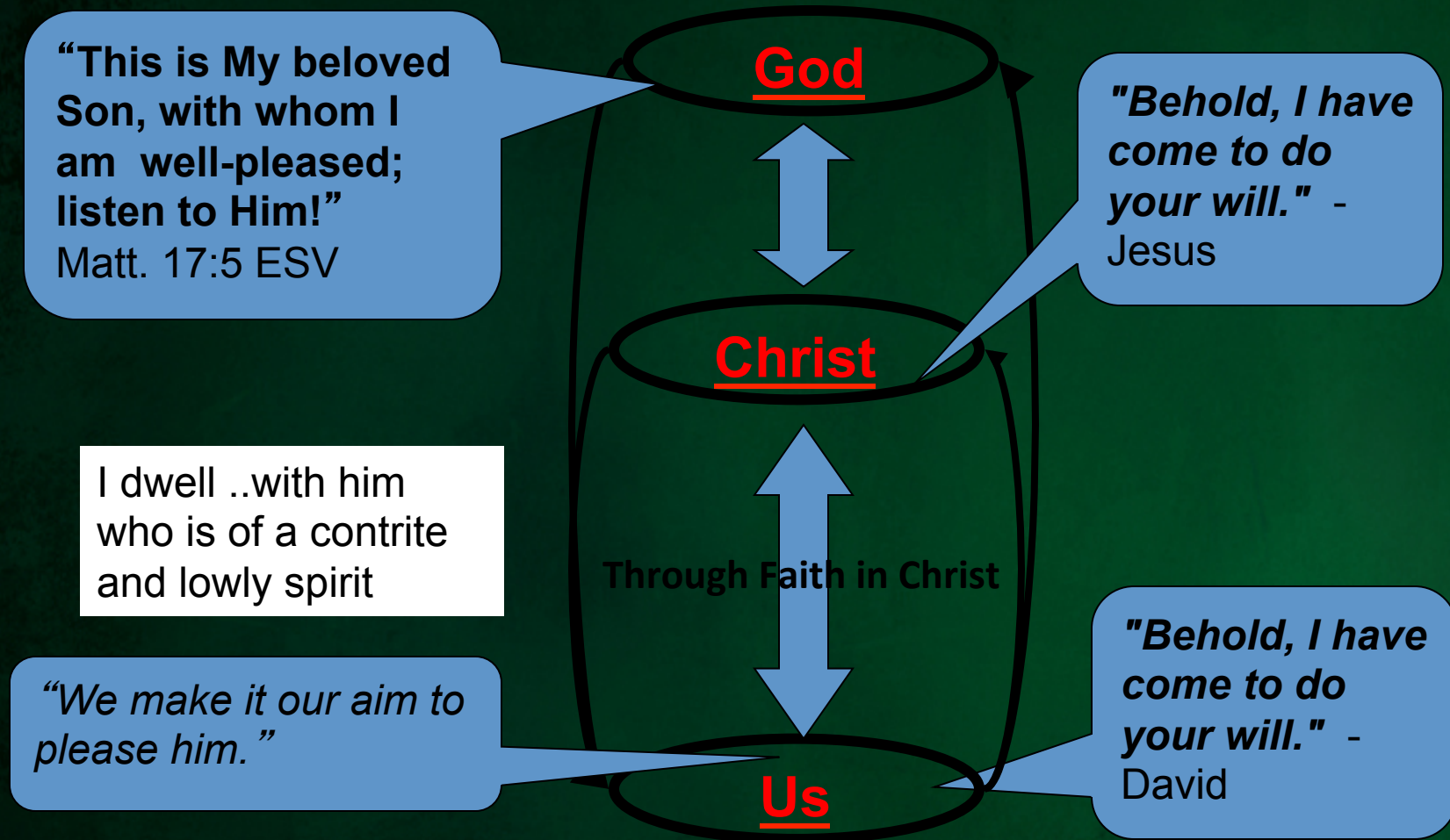
Impossible to Fulfill God's Purposes

- **Sin separates from God** - but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.
(Is. 59:2 ESV)
- **Good deeds are repulsive** - We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. Is. 64:6 ESV)
- **Religious efforts are futile** — [4] For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. [6] in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.
(Heb. 10:4-10 ESV)

The Gospel – Christ Perfectly Fulfills God's Will, Plan & Purpose

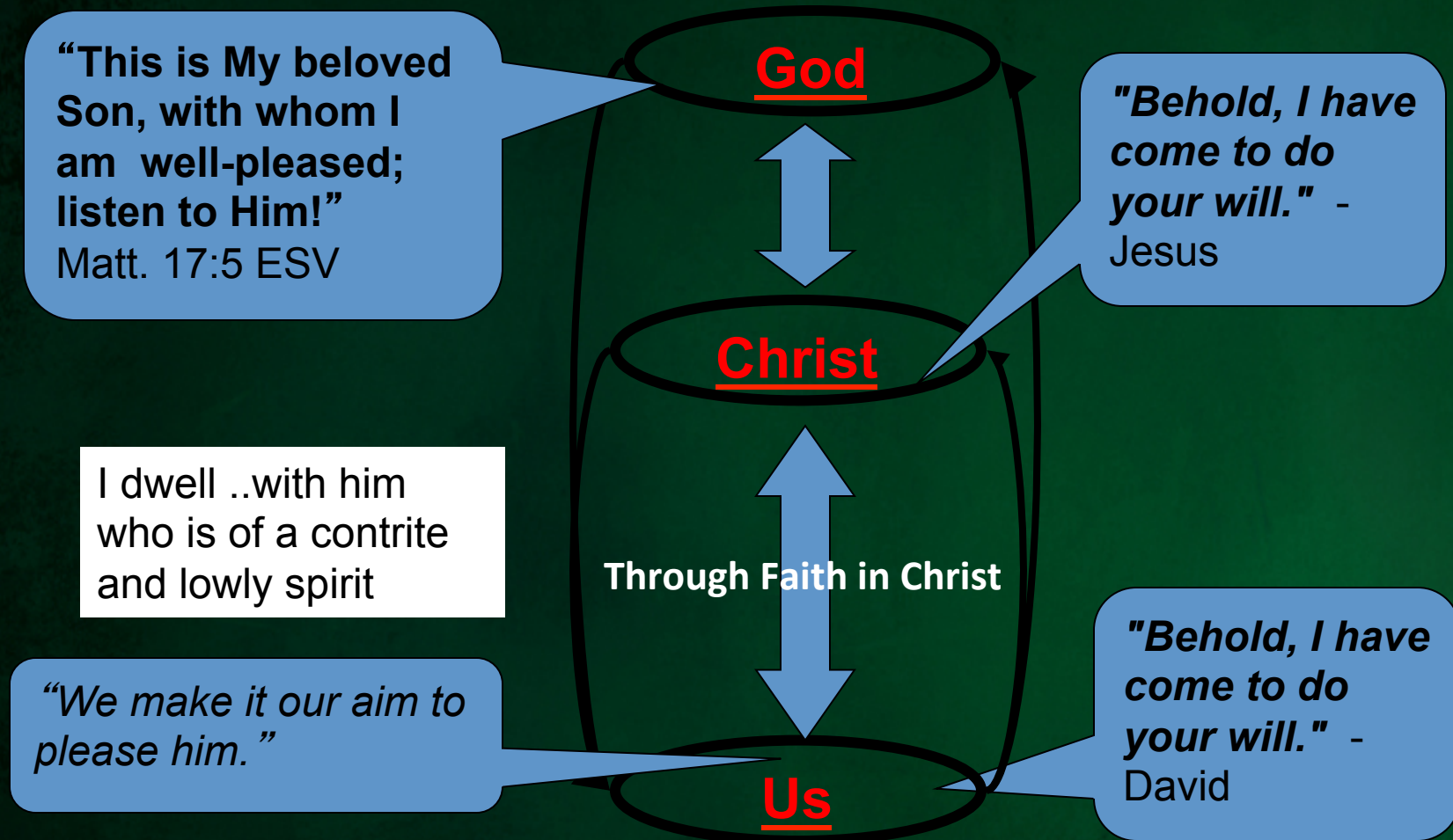
1. It was God's plan for Christ to come. (Gen.3:15)
 2. Christ perfectly fulfills God's plan.
 - He *is* righteous perfection
 - He perfectly obeyed
 - He is the perfect sacrifice
- [4] For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. [5] Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; [9] then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second. [10] And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. (Heb.10:4-10 ESV)

Saving Faith Produces a Response, “Here I am to Do Your Will...”



God completes His perfect in us as we surrender through faith in Christ, resulting in Worship & Fellowship

Saving Faith Produces a Response, “Here I am to Do Your Will...”



God’s perfect plan is completed in us as we totally surrender to Him through faith in Christ, resulting in true Worship & Fellowship

“Lord, I am here to do your will... ...What is My Life-Purpose?”

- *A disciple is not above his teacher, but when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. (Lu.6:40 ESV)*
- *7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. 8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. (2 Cor. 4:7-10 ESV)*

The Gospel

1st Purpose in Life is to Respond to God

How do the 10 Commandments begin?

² “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

³ “You shall have no other gods before me...

⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them,

Exod. 20 ESV

“Be gone, Satan! For it is written, ““You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”” (Matt. 4:10 ESV)

The Gospel

1st Purpose in Life is to Respond to God

*²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the **Father is seeking such people to worship him.***

²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. ” (Jn.4:22-24 ESV)

The Gospel

Worship God in Spirit and Truth

“Worship is the sense and the service of God”.

Sense – right revelation (*in Truth*)

an accurate understanding “*of God’s presence and character*” (Grudem)

involves the mind, will and emotion. Awe, reverence, humility, prayer.

Service – right and natural response (*in Spirit*)

involves the mind, will and emotion.

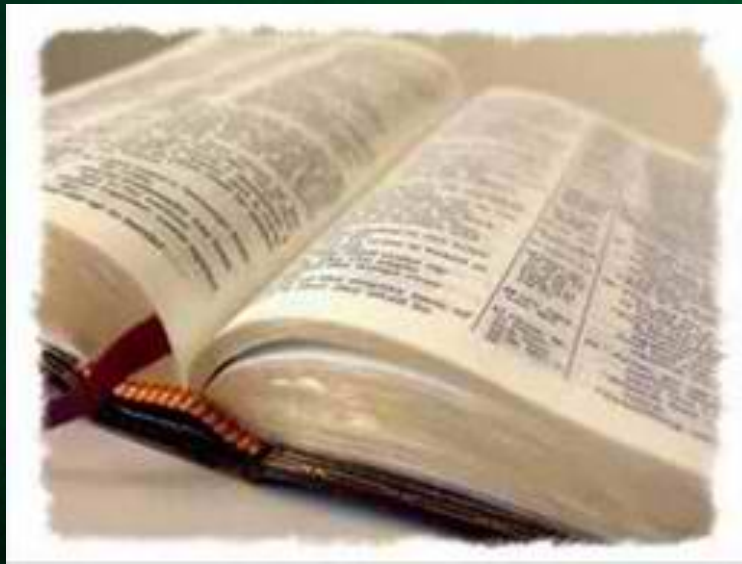
Brokenness, repentance & confession, praise, prayer, service.

The Gospel

Worship God - in Truth

- *Accurate knowledge of God (right revelation)*
- *Whole-hearted acknowledgment of God as He has revealed Himself*
- *Consciously declaring (ascribe, give) value*
- *“Worth-ship” – to appoint value*

The
sense *of*
God



The Gospel

Worship God - In Spirit

- In soul-saving faith
- Surrender of the will
- Ascribing value in praise & prayer
- Emotion, joy, hope, peace, etc.



*“The
service
of God”*

The Gospel

Worship involves Emotion

- I [Jesus, David] **delight** [emotion] **to do your will** [service-will],
O my God; your law [sense-mind] is within my heart.” (Ps. 40:5-8 ESV)
- Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a **joy and the delight of my heart**, for I am called by your name [identity], O LORD, God of hosts.
(Jer. 15:16 ESV)



Worship brings Blessing

“in the doing” Ja. 1:25

- think right [sense]
- do right [service, sacrifice, suffering]



TRUTH
WILL
PASSION

EMOTIONS

MIND

TRUTH

- feel right



Worship is more than...

I appeal to you therefore, brothers,
by the mercies of God,
to present your bodies
as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to
God,
which is your spiritual worship.
(Rom. 12:1 ESV)

The Gospel

Worship calls us to Suffer

²⁰ But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you might follow in his steps. (1 Peter 2:20-21 ESV)

Is this your response?

I don't deserve this
I don't need this right now
I didn't sign up for this
I shouldn't have to endure this
This is not fair
I want what I want

Is this your response?

***Behold, I am here to do
your will!
I want to please God, not
myself, not others***

Worship is...

“...the submission of all of our nature to God.
...the quickening of conscience by His Holiness;
The nourishment of mind by His Truth;
The purifying of imagination by His beauty;
The opening of the heart to His love;
the surrender of will to His purpose
all of this gathered up in adoration, the most self-less
emotion of which we are capable”

William Temple

Worship Enables

Purpose #2 - Glorify God

- **By exalting God above ALL other**
 - Desires, loves, agendas, purposes, wants, etc., etc.
- **By exchanging things of value**
 - *Lust of the flesh* - Sensations (emotions)
 - *Lust of the eye* - Substance (will)
 - *Pride of life* - State of mind (mind)



Glorying God is to...

- Reflect godly Attitudes – His Character, nature
- Reflect godly Actions – what He does
- **Give others a right opinion of God**
- Magnify, bless, praise, boast, rejoice, exalt

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. 3 Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together! Ps.34:1-3 ESV

Glorify God – become more like Christ

[5] Have this mind among yourselves, ...[6] who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, [7] but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant [slave], being born in the likeness of men. [8] And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. [9] Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, [10] so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. [13] for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

I have come to do thy will. (Heb.10:9 KJV)
I do always those things that please Him (Jn.8:29 KJV)

Glorifying God by becoming more like Christ

The Opposite of Love	What Love <u>IS</u>
Self-pity; Selfishness Idolatry; Isolation	<i>Other-focused, self- forgetting sacrificial service</i>
Despair, depression, misery, distress	<i>Joy</i> is love exhilarated (with calm delight)
Worthlessness, depression, despair, fear	<i>Peace</i> is love at rest
Impatience, Intolerance	<i>Patience/Longsuffering</i> is love in trial or on trial

Glorifying God by becoming more like Christ

The Opposite of Love	What Love <u>IS</u>
Criticism; harshness	<i>Kindness</i> is love with confident endurance
Seared conscience, hard-hearted, hypocritical	<i>Goodness</i> is love with active and virtuous care
Fear, anxiety, worry, control, manipulation	<i>Faithfulness</i> (ESV) / <i>Faith</i> (KJV) is love with confident endurance



Glorifying God by becoming more like Christ

The Opposite of Love

Self-pity; Selfishness
Idolatry; Isolation

Despair, depression,
misery, distress

Worthlessness,
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Impatience, Intolerance

What Love IS

*Other-focused, self-
forgetting sacrificial
service*

Joy is love exhilarated
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Patience/Longsuffering
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Glorifying God by becoming more like Christ

The Opposite of Love	What Love <u>IS</u>
Worthlessness, pride, bitterness, anger,	<i>Gentleness</i> (ESV)/ <i>Meekness</i> (KJV) is love without demanding personal rights
Addictions, rage/ violence;	<i>Self-control</i> (ESV)/ <i>Temperance</i> (KJV) is love with self restraint



Glorifying God by becoming more like Christ

The Opposite of Love

Self-pity; Selfishness
Idolatry; Isolation

Despair, depression,
misery, distress

Worthlessness,
depression, despair, fear

Impatience, Intolerance

What Love IS

*Other-focused, self-
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Joy is love exhilarated
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What is My Purpose in Life?

Worship God as a lifestyle, rejecting the gods of this world –e.g. comfort, pleasure, ease, respect, praise, glory, excitement, companionship, money, power, control,

Glorify God by giving others a right opinion of Him, rejecting the flesh's propensity to glorify self.

Please God, rejecting the flesh's propensity to fulfill the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life.

“...we make it our aim to please him. (2 Cor. 5:9 ESV)

Our prayer life reflects who & what we worship;
who we seek to glorify, who we strive to please.

Prayer to Fulfill Your Purpose

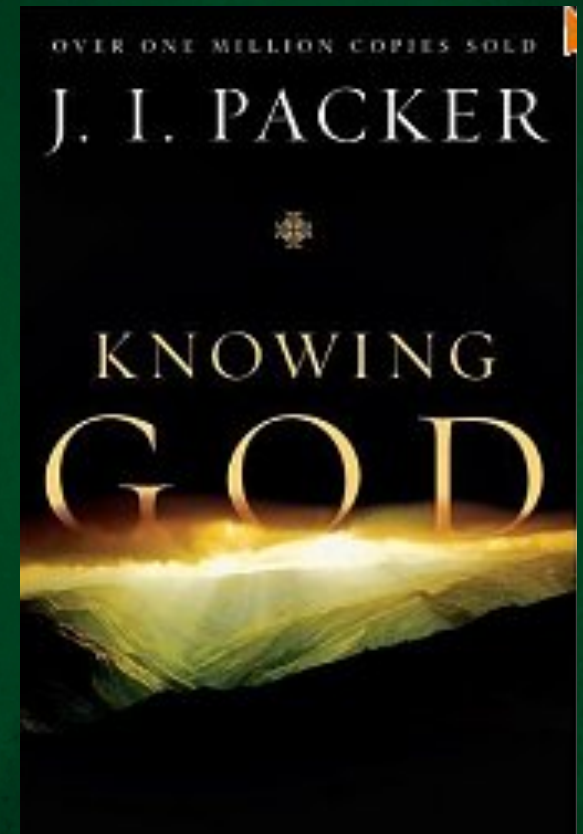
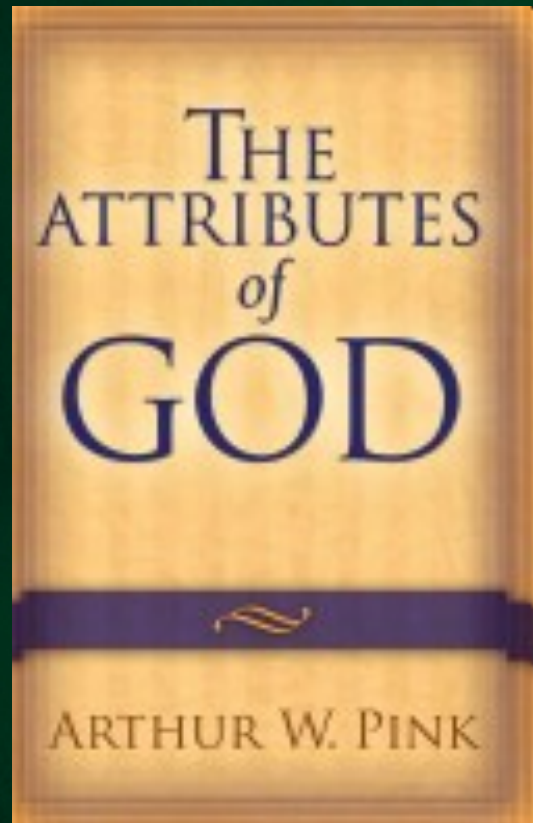
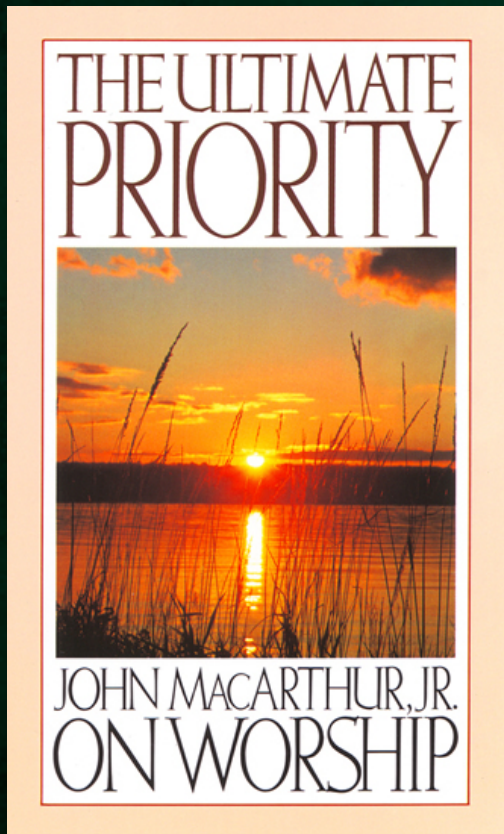
[1] Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by. [2] I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me. [5] Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth! [7] My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast! I will sing and make melody! [9] I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations. [10] For your steadfast love is great to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. [11] Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth! (Ps. 57:1-11 ESV)

God you are sovereign, have your way in me!

SUGGESTED HOMEWORK

- 1) Review handout; summarize your main take-aways from this session, especially noting any areas that were either unclear to you or that you might disagree with the presenter.
- 2) In *Fundamentals of Faith* work book, complete Lesson #4 (pages 47-51); Listen to message #6 @gty.org/fof
- 3) Look up the following verses as a part of your quiet-time this week, note how they reveal the 3 purposes of life: Ps.29:2; Jn. 4:22-24; Rom. 12:1-2; 1 cor. 10:31; 1 Cor. 6:20; Rom.15:6,9; Rom.3:23; Rom.5:2; Jn. 8:29; Rom.8:8; Rom. 15:1-3; 1Cor.7:32; 2 Cor. 5:9,14-15; Gal. 1:10; 1 Thess.2:4; 1 Thess.4:1; 2 Tim.2:4

RECOMMENDED TITLES





NEXT CLASSES

- Track I.5 *Why Do I Do What I Do?*
- Track I.6 *Doctrine of Progressive Sanctification*
- Track I.7 *How Do I Change?*
- Track I.8 *Dealing With Disappointment and Loss*

Praying in Harmony with God's Purposes

[9] And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, [10] so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. (Col 1:9-10)

[27] To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. [28] Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

(Col.1:27-28 ESV)

Our prayer life reflects who & what we worship;
who we seek to glorify, who we strive to please.

