

Living by Purpose

(Proverbs 14:8 – “The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way; but the folly of fools is deceit.”)

I. The Principle of Living by Purpose

A. Scripture calls for human planning while acknowledging God’s sovereignty (Proverbs 20:5,18,15:22,26,16:1,3,9,19:21, 21:5, 24:8 and James 4:13-17).

B. Decisions are to be made understanding:

1. the moral will of God – the areas of life where Scripture has stated what we are to do and not to do (2Timothy 3:16-17, James 1:19-27, John 14:21, Romans 12:1-21,13:1-14);
2. the sovereign will of God – the reality that God controls all things and is working out his overall plan for the universe (Ecclesiastes 7:13-14, Lamentations 3:37-38, Colossians 1:15-17, Ephesians 1:9-10, 2Peter 3:1-18);
3. the non moral will of God – the areas of life where Scripture gives no specific instructions or commands and we are free to choose what we desire, being considerate of your loyalty of God and love for others (1Corinthians 6:12,8:4-13, Romans 14:1-23).

C. Life is to be arranged according to God’s priorities Matthew 22:34-40).

D. Life is to be arranged with relationships in mind (John 13:34-35, Romans 12:3-1).

E. Life is to be lived according to God’s values (Luke 6:20-49, 12:13-34).

II. The Prerequisites of Living by Purpose

A. We must learn the character of God and His plan for mankind.

B. We must study God’s agenda for every aspect of life.

C. We must become aware of our personalities, spiritual gifts, natural talents and treasures and learn how to use them to God’s Glory.

D. We must identify the people, places, things, and activities we are to manage.

E. We must learn where we are to lead and where we are to follow.

III. The Process of Living by Purpose

A. Identify the various roles you have in life.

B. Identify which roles are God given, man given and self given and determine the roles you must keep and the ones you must let go.

C. Identify the Biblical Mandates and the responsibilities that are associated with each role.

D. Organize your roles according to God’s priorities.

E. Identify what you are to accomplish in each particular role and the steps its going to take to accomplish these things.

F. Write out the specific task you have to do on a daily or weekly basis to accomplish what needs to be accomplished.

G. Write out specific ways you can use your spiritual gifts and natural talents to serve your family, the Body of Christ and others accordingly on a daily or weekly basis.

Take some time and work through the questions.

1. Who is God and what is His Mission?

2. What are your spiritual gifts, natural talents and personality type?

3. What are the various roles and responsibilities you have right now in life?

4. Looking at your spiritual gifts, natural talents, treasures, temple, personality, roles and responsibilities how do you believe God wants you to join Him in His Mission ?

5. How will you prioritize and organize your roles, responsibilities, spiritual gifts, and natural talents to accomplish what God wants you to accomplish?

6. Who has God placed in authority over you to hold you accountable?

7. Who has God placed under your authority to hold accountable?

8. Looking at our spiritual gifts, natural talents, treasures, personalities, and natural talents within our family what is God's Mission for this family?

9. Looking at our spiritual gifts, treasures, personalities, and natural talents within our family what are the specific things we need to do to accomplish what God wants us to do for each other in the family and for others?

10. How will this family do what we need to do in order to accomplish what God wants us to do for each other and for others?

11. What will be the responsibilities of all in the family to accomplish what God wants us to do for each other and for others?

12. Who will hold us accountable to do what we need to do in our family?

13. What ministries and organizations do we need to involve ourselves in?

14. What ministries and organizations do we need to let go of?

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After working through the information above write a job description for each role you play with Scripture to validate the role.

Job Description

Position Title: _____

Purpose of the Position: _____ **Scripture:**

Reports to: _____

Relates Closely to: _____

Responsible for:

- _____ *Scripture:*
- _____ *Scripture:*
- _____ *Scripture:*
- _____ *Scripture:*
- _____ *Scripture:*
- _____ *Scripture:*
- _____ *Scripture:*

Measurable Goals for the Position

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Here is an example to consider:

POSITION TITLE: Husband/Father

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION: To lead, love, feed, watch over, protect and serve immediate family and those of the Household (1Cor 11:3, Eph 5:25-27, 1Tim 5:8, John 13:1-17, 1John 3:16, Acts 20:28).

REPORTS TO: Jesus Christ, Elders, Accountability Couple

RELATES CLOSELY WITH: Wife, Daughter, Accountability Couple, Mother, Father, Mother in Law and Father in Law

RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Leading family in the direction designed by God for this family (Joshua 24:14-15).
- Setting an example for Godly living (Matthew 5:6, 1Timothy 4:16).
- Establishing a system for discipling the family to spiritual maturity (Ephesians 5:25-27,6:4, Hebrews 10:24, Proverbs 22:6, 1Corinthians 14:35).
- Providing financial provisions to meet the basic needs of the immediate family and household (1Timothy 5:8, 1John 3:16-19).
- Establishing guidelines and goals for every aspect of living in the home that are according to God's Standards and God's Design for the Family (1Timothy 3:4-5).
- Providing support and service to all members in the household in order that they may live out the purpose God designed for each individual in the household (Romans 12:9-13, Hebrews 3:12-13).
- Protecting the family against hurt, harm, and danger (1John 3:16, Acts 20:28).
- Providing sexual fulfillment to wife unconditionally (1Corinthians 7:1-5).

CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assisting in handling household responsibilities (Philippians 2:3-4).
- Tracking the spiritual growth of the immediate family and household (John 21:15-17).
- Honoring, Praising, and Showing appreciation to my wife on a consistent basis (Proverbs 31:28, 1Peter 3:7).
- Establishing and providing opportunities for family fun, fellowship and travel (Acts 2:42, Hebrews 10:25).
- Seeking to constantly understand who my wife is and how to serve and honor her accordingly (1Peter 3:7).

Measurable Goals for the Position

- What life skills are being developed in my life and family?
- What needs am I meeting for my wife, children and others right now?
- What commitments am I keeping?
- What household responsibilities am I maintaining?
- What social events/hobbies have we been involved in?
- What trips have we taken?

- What level of spiritual maturity is found in my family?
- Who's burdens are we bearing and needs are we meeting for one another and those outside the family?
- What have I protected my family from?
- What financial provisions are being made for my family?
- How much debt are we going into?
- How much debt are we coming out of?
- What goals have we set and accomplished as a family /as individuals in the family?
- What souls have been saved as a result of our family?
- What lives have grown spiritually as result of our family?

POSITION TITLE: Wife

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION: To support and help her husband in various ways so that he may be and do all God designed for him (Genesis 2:18-22).

REPORTS TO: God, Husband, Church Leaders

RELATES CLOSELY WITH: Husband, Daughter, Mother, Father, Mother in law and father in law

RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Submitting to husband in every aspect of life as unto the Lord (Eph 5:23, Titus 2:3-5, 1Peter 3:1)
- Helping her husband in those areas of his life where he is unable to function adequately (Genesis 2:18)
- Meeting his needs in every aspect of the Marriage (Philippians 2:3-4, 1Peter 4:10)
- Showing respect to her husband (Ephesians 5:33)
- Keeping the home inviting and orderly (Titus 2:3-5 Psalm 128:3 Proverbs 31:27)
- Assisting her husband in the raising of children (Titus 2:3-5, Psalm 128:3)
- Keeping herself beautiful inside and outside (1Peter 3:3-5)
- Providing sexual fulfillment to her husband unconditionally (1Corinthians 7:1-5)
- Using her skills, talents, gifts to support her husband and family as first priority (Proverbs 31:27, Psalm 128:3, Titus 2:3-5)
- Being loyal, trustworthy, and dependable in attitude, action, and service to her husband in every aspect of the relationship (Proverbs 31:10-12)

Measurable Goals

- In what ways am I submitting to my husband?
- How am I using my strengths to compensate for my husband's weaknesses?
- What needs am I meeting of my husband?
- What ways am I showing respect to my husband?
- Am I keeping the home inviting and orderly?
- What ways am I helping my husband raise our children?

- What am I doing to keep myself attractive for my husband?
- Is my husband satisfied sexually by me?
- What gifts, talents, skills, and resources am I using to support my Husband/my family?

Position Title: Child

Purpose of the position: to obey and honor our parents according to God's standard (Ephesians 6:1-13)

Reports to: Parents & God

Responsible For:

- Respecting them (Ephesians 6: 1-13, Colossians 3:20, 1 Peter 1:14)
- Maintaining responsibilities as assigned & doing what needs to be done with a right attitude (Ephesians 6: 1-13, Colossians 3:20)
- Supporting and Encouraging them accordingly (Ephesians 6:1-13, Colossians 3:20)
- Getting a clear understanding of what the instruction is that have been given which includes knowing what they expect and following those instructions accordingly
- Maintaining my household chores accordingly (knowing how to clean according to my parents standards)

Measurable Goals For The position:

- How am I showing respect to my parents?
- How am I being supportive to our parents?
- What ways am I encouraging my parents on a daily basis?
- What has been my attitude when doing what has been asked of me?
- What am I doing to develop a proper relationship with my parents?
- What did I do without being asked to do so?
- What instructions have I been following?
- What household responsibilities am I faithfully taking care of?

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After working through the information above write a mission plan for your life.

Purpose of Existence (Why Do I exist?)

Objectives (What specific ways am I to join God in His Mission?)

Process (What steps do I take to accomplish what I need to accomplish?)

Resources (Who and What Do I have and need to accomplish my objectives ?)

Here is an example to consider.

Mission Plan

Purpose of Existence (*Why Do I exist?*)

To lead, love, feed, watch over, protect and serve immediate family, those of my household, those under my care at the College of Biblical Studies and those under my care at Jireh Bible Church.

Objectives (*What specific ways am I to join God in His Mission?*)

1. To lead family in the direction designed by God for this family (Joshua 24:14-15).
2. To set an example for Godly living (Matthew 5:6, 1Timothy 4:16).
3. To establish a system for discipling the family to spiritual maturity (Eph 5:25-27, 6:4, Hebrews 10:24, Proverbs 22:6, 1Corinthians 14:35).
4. To provide financial provisions to meet the basic needs of the immediate family and household (1Timothy 5:8, 1John 3:16-19).
5. To establish guidelines and goals for every aspect of living in the home that are according to God's Standards and God's Design for the Family (1Timothy 3:4-5).
6. To provide support and service to all members in the household in order that they may live out the purpose God designed for each individual in the household (Romans 12:9-13, Hebrews 3:12-13).
7. To protect the family against hurt, harm, and danger (1John 3:16, Acts 20:28).
8. To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ (2Timothy 4:1-5).
9. To teach Men, Women, Children how to obey God (Matthew 28:18-20).
10. To equip Men, Women, and Children to serve according to their giftedness and to relate to one another in love (Ephesians 4:11-16, 1Timothy 1:5).
11. To make sure the needs of the church and students are taking care of (Titus 3:14).
12. To make sure the Church and the class room is pure and sin is addressed (1Corinthians 5, Galatians 6:1-2).
13. To make sure the doctrines, disciplines, and duties of the Christian faith are properly proclaimed to the Church and the students (2Timothy 4:1-5).
14. To develop and select spiritual leaders to assist in taking care of the Church and the students (1Timothy 3:1-13).

Process (*What steps do I take to accomplish what I need to accomplish?*)

1. Organize my time by my roles and responsibilities.
2. Have two days for just my wife and daughter that I maintain.
3. Find faithful, available, and teachable men to groom to assist in the process caring for the church and my students.
4. Develop a once a month get away to relax and renew.
5. Find curriculum and books that I can read that will help me to grow in my faith.
6. Find an older man to hold me accountable and teach me according to their wisdom and knowledge.

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Resources (*Who and What Do I have and need to accomplish my objectives?*)

1. I have my wife to support me.
2. I have my daughter to support me.
3. I have been trained by Dallas Seminary and the Master's College and several Pastors in the community.
4. I have the support of my parishioners and students.
5. I need more education in biblical counseling to enhance my serving of others.
6. I need an older man to tutor me spiritual development and pasturing.
7. I need someone to teach me how to invest so that I may retire debt free and have money to live on.
8. I need some faithful, available, teachable men that I can train to lead and take over
9. various parts of the ministry and soon to take my place.

After working through the information above write a mission plan for your family.

Purpose of Existence (Why Did God allow my family to Exist?)

Objectives (What are specific ways our family is join God in His Mission?)

Responsibilities (What is each person in the family responsible for doing to accomplish our assignment?)

Process (What steps do we need to take to accomplish our assignment as a family?)

Accountability (Who will hold us accountable?)

Measurable Goals (How will we measure our progress?)

Here is an example to consider.

The Ellen Family *(Mission Plan)*

Purpose Statement: To be a family unit that uses their God-given abilities to help each other function as God designed and disciple families abroad.

Objectives of Family:

1. To bear on another's burdens.
2. To meet one another's needs.
3. To help each other grow in obedience to God.
4. To help each other grow in love for all.
5. To disciple married couples.
6. To disciple men and women according to God's leading.
7. To serve various churches and Christian organizations through our various gifts, talents, and treasures.
8. To help hurting people on a city-wide level and abroad.

Process:

1. Nicolas and Venessa will lay out monthly responsibilities according to the various roles each person in the family holds.
2. Through monthly family meetings we will discover what needs, concerns, and interest we need to address with each other and make sure that they are taken care of within a timely manner.
3. Nicolas will select the discipleship material according to individual needs of each person in the family and train them through it accordingly.
4. Venessa will develop and maintain a family budget and manage the finances.
5. Venezia will take care of household responsibilities as assigned by Venessa.
6. Nicolas and Venessa will use their biblical counseling training to disciple men/women and married couples.
7. Nicolas and Venessa will develop a home for unwed pregnant women and a biblical counseling center to help people city-wide and abroad.
8. Nicolas and Venessa will work with local seminaries, Christian organizations, and Christian Schools to teach and serve according to their resources.
9. Venezia will use her gifts, talents, and treasures to bear burdens, meet needs, and teach truth to her friends, relatives, school mates, and people abroad.
10. Venezia will seek to work with children via volunteering at local organizations, baby sitting, and through her vocation.
11. The family will seek to have monthly times of fun and fellowship with each other and friends.
12. The family will take annual vacations for fun and fellowship.

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Accountability Partners:

1. Ira and Cynthia will hold us accountable in our marriage relationship.
2. Pastor Rich will hold us accountable to living responsibly as individuals in Christ.
3. Our Pastor will hold us accountable as a family to live responsibly in Christ.

Measurable Goals:

1. What life skills and spiritual truths are being developed in my family?
2. What needs and burdens are we addressing of each other?
3. What household responsibilities am I maintaining?
4. What social events/hobbies have we been involved in?
5. What trips have we taken?
6. What is our financial status?
7. What goals have we set and accomplished as a family /as individuals in the family?
8. What souls have been saved as a result of our family?
9. What lives have grown spiritually as result of our family?

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After working through the information above develop a weekly/ daily task sheet according to your roles and responsibilities.

Roles	Task for Sunday	Task for Monday	Task for Tuesday	Task For Wednesday	Task for Thursday	Task for Friday	Task for Saturday

Here is an example:

Roles	Task for Sunday	Task for Monday	Task for Tuesday	Task For Wednesday	Task for Thursday	Task for Friday	Task for Saturday
Husband	Have a talk time to discuss some problems Go to a movie/dinner and hang out		Make sure I take the cars to be washed			Take wife out to dinner and a movie and hang out	Help her with some of the work around House
Father			Take my daughter to school and talk with her about he life Talk with Daughter about some Guy she seems to like	Take my daughter to school and talk with her about he life Discuss her progress through the book of Ephesians	Take my daughter to school and talk with her about he life Discuss the worksheet called Why does man need God		Take daughter and friend to movie and hang out
Pastor	Finish out sermon series/ try to finish Sunday school lesson	Prepare Sunday's and Wednesday's Lesson Pre pare for counseling sessions for today Follow up with a phone call on visitors	Prepare Sunday's and Wednesday's Lesson Pre pare for counseling sessions for today	Prepare Sunday's and Wednesday's Lesson Pre pare for counseling sessions for today	Prepare Sunday's Lesson and Sunday School's lesson Pre pare for counseling sessions for today		Prepare Sunday's Lesson and Sunday School's lesson
Teacher		Prepare and Teach Ms 4344	Prepare and Teach Ms 4345		Prepare and teach Ms 405 Counseling		Prepare and Teach Ms 405 Counseling
Son	Call parents and say hello						
Student		Read Ch 1 and do worksheet					

Books to Study:

The Knowledge of The Holy by A.W. Tozer
Desiring God by John Piper
Faith in Future Grace by John Piper
What a Way to Live(The Kingdom Agenda) by Tony Evans
Discovering your God Given Gifts Don and Katie Fortune
Decision Making in the Will of God by Gary Freison
How Now Shall We Live (workbook) by Charles Colson
Experiencing Christ Within by Dwight Edwards
The Mind of Christ (workbook) by TW Hunt
How Can I Change? By C. J. Mahoney
The Exemplary Husband by Stuart Scott
The Excellent Wife by Martha Peace
Your Family God's Way by Wayne Mack
Christian Living in Your Home by Jay Adams
The Age of Opportunity by Paul David Tripp
Strengthening Your Marriage by Wayne Mack
Shepherding a Child's Heart by Paul David Tripp
War of Words by Paul David Tripp
Created for His Glory by Jim Berg
Changed Into His Image by Jim Berg
Created for God's Glory by Jim Berg
At The Alter of Sexual Idolatry by Steve Gallagher
Life in the Father's House by Wayne Mack
Lord Change My Attitude by James McDonald
With All Your Heart by Nicolas Ellen