



BREAKING THE ICE

What's the best job you ever had? How did it help you fulfill the purpose in your life?

Last week, we talked about being a blessing to others. Who were you able to be a blessing to last week? Describe how you were a blessing.

MAIN CONTENT

This week, we were able to hear from Pastor Drew about our ache for having purpose in our lives.

Many times we place our purpose in our job. As Pastor Drew said, "We've been told paradise looks like climbing the ladder to success and then we retire."

1. How have you tried to find purpose in your job or career in the past? How has that affected your life?

Working is not a bad thing. God did work when he created the world (Genesis 1:1). Work can be a fulfilling thing when we know we are working within the gifts, talents and wiring God gave us. It's when we put everything into our work that it can become unhealthy.

2. How would you describe your work life currently? What changes would you make to create a healthy life balance?

God gave us all purpose in life and it goes beyond what we do. We can live out our purpose wherever we are in life. We aren't just workers. God created all of us with specific wiring to do things only we can do. This wiring adds to our purpose in life.

When we are looking to find our purpose, we have to **look in**.

Read Genesis 1:26 and Ephesians 2:10

We are created in the likeness of God. He created us uniquely and wired us differently. You have passions, skills, resources, experience, trainings and many more things that make you uniquely you. When you look

in and think about all of these things, it starts the process of finding your purpose.

3. What are some passions, skills, experiences and things that make you uniquely you?

The second thing we need to do to help us find our purpose is to **look out**.

Read Genesis 1:27-28 and 1 Peter 2:9

God wired all of us specifically for His purpose. That purpose goes beyond what we can do for ourselves. God wired us to bring good to the world, to help make others' lives better. He wants us to look beyond ourselves and use our gifts and purpose to help others.

4. Where and how have you used your unique wiring to help others?

The last thing we need to do to help us find our purpose is to **look up**.

God gets the glory when we live out our purpose. God is the ultimate creator and He made us to help ourselves and others live out their purpose.

5. How do you glorify God in your purpose?

When our work and purpose aligns with God, we are stewarding what He has given us. If we choose our own purpose and work hard for that, we deplete ourselves and we can't do everything He has called us to do. We work in our own strength and burn out. But when we work in the purpose He has given us and rest in Him, we have the strength to continue on.

Our job isn't to constantly work to prove ourselves. We are to work with Him, operating in the gifts He has given us. So when it's time to rest, we can rest fully in God knowing we are doing what He has uniquely created us to do to help ourselves and others.

6. How would you describe your times of rest?

We can find our purpose when we look in, look out and look up. When we steward what God has given us and spend time with Him in our work and rest, we are living out the purpose He has for us.

7. Where or how do you need to redefine your purpose in your life?

CLOSING PRAYER

God, thank You for creating each of us uniquely. For giving us our own unique talents and gifts that make us who we are. Please help us create our purpose based on what you have for us and not based on what we think. Forgive us for not taking the time to hear from You and doing things on our own. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ACTION STEP

Drew talked about taking time to hear from God about our purpose at the end of the service this week. Without time constraints, we want to practice sitting and hearing from God about our purpose.

- + Ask God about your unique skills, talents and how those lead to your purpose. Write them down in a place you will see them.
- + Ask God how and where you can use these talents and skills to help others this week. Act on it and do what He has asked you to do.
- + Spend time reflecting on Him and being with Him this week. Make a note of what happens in your times with Him.