# 10: Lives on Purpose Pastor Dennis Rouse March 17-18, 2018

## 10 Qualities of a Disciple:

- 1. Passionately Committed to Jesus Christ
- 2. Extraordinary Love for People
- 3. The Heart of a Servant
- 4. Sensitive and Submitted to the Holy Spirit
- 5. Governed by the Authority of God's Word
- 6. Lives Morally Pure
- 7. Evangelistically Bold
- 8. Engages in Biblical Community
- 9. Just and Generous
- 10. Lives on Purpose

# 3 Questions Everyone Must Answer:

- 1. The Question of Existence: Why am I alive?
- 2. The Question of Significance: Does my life really matter?
- 3. The Question of Intention: What is my purpose?

"The greatest tragedy in life is not death but life without reason. It is dangerous to be alive and not know why you were given life."

- Dr. Myles Munroe
- 1. Why am I alive?

#### **Proverbs 16:4 NLT**

The Lord has made everything for his own purposes...

You are alive to fulfill God's purpose in life!

# **Ephesians 1:11-12 MSG**

"It's in Christ that we find out WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE ARE LIVING FOR. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall PURPOSE HE is working out in everything and everyone.

2. Does my life really matter?

#### 3 Levels of Life:

- 1. Survival Level
- 2. Success Level
- 3. Significance Level

## Philippians 2:3-4 NKJ

Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

# Success vs. Significance:

- SUCCESS asks, "How can I add value to MYSELF?"
- SIGNIFICANCE asks, "How can I add value to OTHERS?"
- "If I pursue SUCCESS, my joy is the result of my SUCCESS."
- "If I pursue SIGNIFICANCE, my joy is the result of OTHERS' SUCCESS."
- SUCCESS can last a LIFETIME.
- SIGNIFICANCE can last FOR ETERNITY.

Believers live for success. Disciples live for SIGNIFICANCE.

3. What is my purpose?

"There is something for you to start that is ordained for you to finish."

- Dr. Myles Munroe

"You cannot help others define life until you define it for yourself."

#### Proverbs 29:18 NKJ

Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint...

**Paraphrase:** "Where there is no purpose, there is no self-control, no moral conviction, no eternal boundaries."

"Without purpose we feel no passion for living; life has no meaning."

## The Process of Purpose:

1. Purpose begins with a cross experience.

#### Luke 9:23-25 NIV

Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?"

#### Luke 14:26-33 NKJ

"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it—lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish'? Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple."

2. Realize purpose is revealed through faithfulness.

#### Luke 16:10-12 NLT

"If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities. And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? And if you are not faithful with other people's things, why should you be trusted with things of your own?

3. Purpose is conceived through a holy discontent.

#### **Proverbs 19:21 NIV**

Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

4. Purpose activates through faith in God's power.

## **Ephesians 1:17-19 NKJ**

...that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power...