

WEEK FORTY: **“Living With Purpose”**

DAY ONE: **“Actually Doing It”**

Read: Matthew 7:24-27 (*Freedom in Christ Bible*, p. 1086)

Read: *Purpose-Driven Life*, p. 312 to top of p. 313

Reflect: What purpose or direction from God do you know and believe in but are not yet doing? What is keeping you from doing it?

Dig: What does the “therefore” refer to in verse 24? See verses 21-23.

What is the difference between the person who builds on rock and the one who builds on shifting sand?

According to this passage, what will come into our lives to reveal its foundations?

According to James 2:22-25 (*Freedom in Christ Bible*, p. 1443), what are we like if we hear the Word but don't put it into action?

Apply: Write out a prayer in the space provided, asking God to give you the power to obey a word that God has revealed to you that you need to obey.

WEEK FORTY: **“Living With Purpose”**
DAY TWO: **“What Is a Life Purpose Statement?”**

Read: Proverbs 4:23-27 (*Freedom in Christ Bible*, p. 697)

Read: *Purpose-Driven Life*, top of p. 313 to top of p. 314

Reflect: Try writing down the purpose of your life, just off the top of your head as a rough draft:

Dig: According to Proverbs 4:23, what must we guard and why?

What three parts of the body must we have under control?

What are we supposed to stay away from?

What is a distraction to you that you should not even look at or wander toward?

Apply: What would “success” be for you?

Has that concept changed over the course of this study? How?

WEEK FORTY: **“Living With Purpose”**
DAY THREE: **“Life’s Five Greatest Questions”**

Read: 2 Peter 1:3-11 (*Freedom in Christ Bible*, p. 1459)
Read: *Purpose-Driven Life*, top of p. 314 to top of p. 318

Reflect: What kind of character do you want to develop?

Which person do you know that you would most like to be like?

Dig: According to 2 Peter 1:3-11, what gives you the ability to make character changes?

What is the first thing you are to add to faith?

What comes second?

What does that tell you about God’s priorities?

How are you described if you are not growing in these characteristics? See verse 9.

Apply: Make a list of the character qualities you want to work on and develop in your life:

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DAY FOUR: **“God Wants to Use You”**

Read: 2 Chronicles 16:9 (*Freedom in Christ Bible*, p. 484)

Read: *Purpose-Driven Life*, middle of p. 318 to end of chapter

Reflect: If you could do one thing well in your life, what would that one thing be?

Dig: What did the king of Israel fail to do? See verses 7-8.

Who are those that God is looking for to strengthen?

According to Isaiah 55:6 (*Freedom in Christ Bible*, p. 813), is there a certain time period when we can expect to come to God and seek him?

When could God not be found in order to strengthen us?

Apply: For what does God want to use you?

To help you answer that question, you might try answering these questions (if you cannot answer them easily or well, try taking the “Network” seminar next held at Madison Square Church on the second weekend of September (Sept. 10-11)).

What is your heart’s passion?

What are your spiritual gifts?

How has God designed your personality?

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DAY FIVE: **“Living With Purpose Is the Only Way to Really Live”**

Using the “*Lectio Divina*” method of Bible study (see page 2 of this booklet), meditate on this scripture:

“For David...served the purpose of God in his own generation.” Acts 13:36 (NASB)

Lectio divina (a Latin expression which means sacred reading) is done in three stages:

- *reading*: you read the passage slowly and reverentially, allowing the words to sink into your consciousness; after you have memorized the text, write down one word which strikes you and draws your attention and note why you chose that word.
- *meditation*: you allow the passage to stir up memories within you, so that you recognize in it your own experience or that of people who have touched your life; write down memories of events or conversations or other scripture passages.
- *prayer*: you allow the meditation to lead you to prayer -- thanksgiving, humility and petition. Write out a prayer based on the passage.