



October 13, 2013 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

# WHAT ON EARTH AM I HERE FOR?

## PART 2: YOU'RE CALLED TO BE LOVED

### Purpose 1: You Were Planned for God's Pleasure

The first purpose of your life is to be **LOVED** by God.

#### **Ephesians 1:4-5 (NLT)**

4 Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. 5 God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.

#### **Ephesians 2:1-5 (ESV)**

1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 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. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved—

Worship is my **RESPONSE** to God's love.

A Definition: Worship = **WORTH-SHIP**

It's an expression of God's worth. His value. His glory.

"The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy him forever." – Westminster Catechism

#### **Mark 12:28-30 (ESV)**

28 And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" 29 Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 **And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.**'"

#### **Romans 6:13b (NLT)**

"Give yourselves completely to God since you have been given new life."

Worship is expressing my **AFFECTION** to God.

Worship is focussing my **ATTENTION** on God.

Worship is using my **ABILITIES** for God.

## 1:10 HOMEWORK

### Open Your Group in Prayer

"Long ago, even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure." Ephesians 1:4-5 (NLT)

1. Read Ephesians 1:4-5 above. How does this verse indicate we are called to be loved?

"I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep in the soil of God's marvelous love. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how WIDE, how LONG, how HIGH, and how DEEP his love really is. May you EXPERIENCE the love of Christ though it is so great you will never fully understand it." Ephesians 3:17-19 (NLT)

2. Ephesians 1:4-5 above indicates that God loved us before he even made the world having planned to adopt us into his own family. God's love for us is constant on both our good and bad days. Read Ephesians 3:17-19 above and discuss how we might experience the love of Christ through a relationship with God as His own son or daughter.

3. Meditate on Ephesians 3:17-19 above, specifically on how God's love for us is so wide, long, deep, and high. God's love is high enough for Him to overlook every mistake we'd ever make. As we grow in understanding of how much God loves us, how does that help us to grow in love for God?

4. **Read Romans 8:33-34.** Many people live for the approval of others, even those who have already passed on. Whose approval are you seeking? Sadly, people run from God because they feel ashamed instead of accepted. Imagine fully accepting God's unconditional God's love as His chosen child. What needs would you boldly bring to Him? What charges do some people commonly bring against others that this verse says they cannot?

5. **Read 1 John 4:18 (all of it).** Often people lack peace when they struggle with pains or problems they don't understand. However, God wants us to trust Him. How can 1 John 4:18 give us courage to take risks, especially in areas of our lives where dreams may not yet be realized? Be specific in sharing what types of action you would take in order to take a risk where God is calling you.

"Give yourself completely to God, since you have been given new life." Romans 6:13b (NLT)

6. Worry indicates that we are not fully living the new life given to us and is often a warning sign that we are not living in God's love. Worship is simply telling God we love Him, whether at church, with others, or alone. *Worship is always a response* because God first loved us. How can you remind yourself to worship the next time you begin to worry?

7. If our first purpose in life is to be loved by God, we must overcome obstacles that prevent us from receiving His love. How would your life change if you felt God loved you every moment of your life regardless of any mistakes you've made in the past or may make in the future? How has God freed you from mistakes you've made in the past, and how might he free you from mistakes you're still holding onto today?

8. See Romans 6:13 above. In light of the fact that we've been given new life, how might we give ourselves more completely to God? In what ways have you not given yourself completely to God?