



A Journey with Purpose

Finding God's Plan For Your Life



Pleasing God is Your Goal

- You were planned for **GOD'S** pleasure



Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

- 5) God's 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.**



Pleasing God is Your Goal

- You were planned for **GOD'S** pleasure
- Anything that brings pleasure to God is called **WORSHIP**
- Worship is your **1st PURPOSE**
- Worship is not a **PART** of your life
- Worship **IS** your life!



1st Corinthians 10:31 (NIV)

31) So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do,
do it all for the glory of God.



Romans 12:1 (Message)

- 1) So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life - your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life - and **place it before God as an offering**. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for Him.



Ephesians 5:10 (Message)

10) Figure out what will please God, and then do it.



What Pleases God

1. When you **LOVE** Him supremely



Hosea 6:6 (Message)

- 6) I'm after love that lasts, not more religion. **I want you to know GOD**, not simply go to more meetings.



What Pleases God

1. When you **LOVE** Him supremely
2. When you **TRUST** Him completely



Psalm 147:11 (NLT)

- 11) The LORD is pleased with those who worship him and **trust his love.**



What Pleases God

1. When you **LOVE** Him supremely
2. When you **TRUST** Him completely
3. When you **OBEY** Him wholeheartedly



Psalm 119:33 (NLT)

33) Point out your rules to me, and **I won't disobey a single one of them.**



John 14:15 (NIV)

15) If you love me, you will **obey my commandments.**



What Pleases God

1. When you **LOVE** Him supremely
2. When you **TRUST** Him completely
3. When you **OBEY** Him wholeheartedly
4. When you **PRAISE** Him continually



Psalm 69:30-31 (NIV)

- 30) **I will praise God's name** in song and glorify him with thanksgiving.
- 31) This will please the LORD more than an ox, more than a bull with its horns and hoofs.



What Pleases God

1. When you **LOVE** Him supremely
2. When you **TRUST** Him completely
3. When you **OBEY** Him wholeheartedly
4. When you **PRAISE** Him continually
5. When you **USE** your abilities



Psalm 37:23 (NLT)

- 23)** The steps of the godly are directed by the LORD.
 He delights in every detail of their lives.



Worship is Surrender

- Surrender is **HARD**
- Surrendering your life to God is what He wants **MOST** from you



Romans 12:1 (NIV)

- 1) Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to **offer your bodies as living sacrifices**, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship.



Worship is Surrender

- Surrender is **HARD**
- Surrendering your life to God is what He wants **MOST** from you
- God wants your **ENTIRE LIFE**
- **100%** of it!



What holds us back?

1. You don't surrender because of **FEAR**



1st John 4:18 (NIV)

- 18)** **There is no fear in love.** But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.



Romans 5:8 (NIV)

- 8) But **God demonstrates his own love for us** in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



What holds us back?

1. You don't surrender because of **FEAR**
2. You don't surrender because of **PRIDE**
3. You don't surrender because of **CONFUSION**




Surrendering to God's Will

"The more we let God take us over, the more truly ourselves we become.

God made us. He invented all the different people that you and I are intended to be.

It is when I turn to God, when I give up myself to His personality, that I first begin to have a real personality of my own."

- C. S. Lewis



Luke 5:5 (NIV)

- 5) Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. **But because you say so**, I will let down the nets.”



Surrendering to God's Will

- When you surrender to God, **you trust Him to work things out** instead of trying to manipulate others, force your agenda and control the situation
- When you surrender to God, you don't feel obligated to react to criticism or rush to defend your rights



Mark 14:36 (NIV)

- 36) “Abba, Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. **Yet not what I will, but what you will.**”



Surrendering to God's Will

- Jesus surrendered to God because he **LOVED** Him
- We surrender **NOT** out of obligation or duty
- We surrender out of **LOVE**



God wants to be our friend

- God enjoyed that type of relationship with Adam and Eve in the beginning
- God intended you to enjoy that type of relationship with Him
- After the fall, that ideal was lost
- Man's sins separate us from God
- Christ changed all that when he gave himself for our sins



Romans 5:10-11 (NIV)

- 10) For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!
- 11) Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom we have now received reconciliation.**



John 15:15 (NIV)

- 15) I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, **I have called you friends**, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.



Acts 17:26-27 (Message)

- 26) Starting from scratch, he made the entire human race and made the earth hospitable, with plenty of time and space for living
- 27) so we could seek after God, and not just grope around in the dark but actually *find* him. He doesn't play hide-and-seek with us. **He's not remote; he's near.**



Becoming Friends with God

1. Through **CONSTANT CONVERSATION**
2. Through **CONTINUAL MEDITATION**
3. Through **BEING HONEST WITH GOD**
4. Through **CHOOSING TO OBEY GOD**
5. Through **CHOOSING TO VALUE WHAT GOD VALUES**
6. Through **DESIRING FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD**



Philippians 3:10 (Amplified)

- 10) For **my determined purpose is that I may know him**, that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of his person more strongly and more clearly, and that I may in that same way come to know the power out flowing from his resurrection which it exerts over believers, and that I may so share his sufferings as to be continually transformed in spirit into his likeness even to his death.



Worship that is pleasing to God

1. Worship should be **ACCURATE**



John 4:22-24 (NIV)

- 22) You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews.
- 23) Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks.
- 24) God is spirit, and **his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."**



Worship that is pleasing to God

1. Worship should be **ACCURATE**
2. Worship should be **AUTHENTIC**



John 4:23 (Message)

- 23) But the time is coming - it has, in fact, come - when what you're called will not matter and where you go to worship will not matter. *"It's who you are and the way you live that count before God. Your worship must engage your spirit in the pursuit of truth. That's the kind of people the Father is out looking for: **those who are simply and honestly themselves before him in their worship.**"*



Worship that is pleasing to God

1. Worship should be **ACCURATE**
2. Worship should be **AUTHENTIC**
3. Worship should be **THOUGHTFUL**



Matthew 6:7 (NIV)

- 7) And when you pray, **do not keep on babbling** like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.



Worship that is pleasing to God

1. Worship should be **ACCURATE**
2. Worship should be **AUTHENTIC**
3. Worship should be **THOUGHTFUL**
4. Worship should be **GIVING**



2nd Samuel 24:24 (NIV)

- 7) But the king replied to Araunah, “No, *I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.*” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver for them.



Real Worship

- God is **REAL**, no matter how you feel
- The **DEEPEST LEVEL OF WORSHIP** is praising God in spite of pain, thanking God during a trial, trusting God when tempted, surrendering to God while suffering, and loving God when He seems distant



The Test of a True Friendship

- God won't always feel close to you
- *Absence makes the heart grow fonder*
- *Out of sight, out of mind*



The Test of a True Friendship

- God **DOES** want you to feel His presence in your life...
- But, He is more concerned that you learn to **TRUST** Him than **FEEL** Him
- **FAITH** not **FEELINGS** is what pleases God



Pleasing God is Your Goal

- You were planned for **GOD'S** pleasure

WORSHIP

**is one of God's
Purposes for You**