



## ***YOU ASKED FOR IT!*** **SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE** **PART 1: FINDING MY PURPOSE**

**INTRODUCTION:** In this week's segment of You Asked For It!, Pastor Marc talked about the importance of **finding our purpose**. This first message answered the question what do you want in life? Deep down we all want the same thing in life. We want our **lives to matter**. We want our lives to be significant. We want to find our purpose, our individual way of **making a difference** in this world.

Making a difference in this world has nothing to do with being famous, getting rich or being a celebrity. You don't have to be any of things to be **significant**. In fact, don't let the word **significance intimidate** you from a life that matters. **Significance** simply means to make a difference with others where ever you are, with whatever you have, doing it day by day.

If for some reason you are unsure of how you can make a difference let this discussion guide be a reminder to you that when you woke up this morning God was thinking about you. When he created you in his image he had plans for you. You were divinely placed here on **purpose for a purpose**. There is a text message from God found in **Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)**. **Read it. It is his message just for you.**



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### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Do you know anyone personally who seems to be living out God's purpose for his/her life? What are the characteristics of that person's life that you would want to see in your own? **Discuss**
2. Make an honest inventory of where you are in your personal relationship with Jesus. What step could you take today to move to the next level in your relationship with Him?
3. God has given each of us specific talents and abilities. What are some of the areas where you feel God has gifted you to make an eternal difference?
4. Our real purpose can partly be determined by answering these 5 Questions:
  - a. *What do you cry about?*
  - b. *What do you sing about?*
  - c. *What do dream about?*
  - d. *What are you passionate about?*
  - e. *What are my gifts?*
5. Find someone you can trust, and speak to them about your answers to the questions. Ask them to keep you accountable to follow through with decisions you have made to make a difference in your own life, and in the life of others.
6. The difference between success and significance is huge. Something we often get confused. Success is when you add value to yourself. Significance is when you add value to others. **Discuss**

**MOVING FORWARD** The greatest need in any person's life is to live a life of significance. *A life that makes a difference.*

**CHANGING YOUR MIND** *"Leave your impoverished confusion and live! Walk up the street to a life with meaning."* **Proverbs 9:6 (Message)**



## Message Notes

### YOU ASKED FOR IT, PART 1-PURPOSE

**Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)**– “For I know the **thoughts and plans that I have for you**, says the Lord, **thoughts and plans for welfare and peace** and not for evil, to **give you hope** in your final outcome.”

Every person on earth **was created** to better mankind

Every person has **talents** to better mankind

Every person has **an opportunity** to better mankind

Every person has **a purpose** for which they were created

Every person must look within **to discover** their purpose

Change your **mindset**

**Embrace** your responsibility

You have to be **intentional**

### The Two Challenges of Life

**Mark 8:34 (NLT)**– <sup>34</sup>Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.<sup>35</sup> If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it.<sup>36</sup> And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?<sup>37</sup> Is anything worth more than your soul?

1. To **find** ourselves
2. To **lose** ourselves

### How Do We Find Ourselves?

When we **discover** our **purpose**.

### 5 Questions to Help You Discover Your Purpose

1. What do you **cry** about?
  - What causes you so much **discomfort**
  - What motivates you to **take action**



## Message Notes

2. What do you **sing** about?
  - What always makes you **happy**
  - What puts a **bounce** in your step
3. What do you **dream** about?
  - What if you could do **anything** you wanted to make the world better?
  - What if you could make a **difference** on a larger scale?
4. What am I **passionate** about?
  - What I love to do is often **what I should** be do.
  - Passion sets us apart from **others**.
5. What are my **gifts**?
  - Be **good** at it.
  - Have an **opportunity** to use it.
  - Be **energized** by it.
  - Have **capacity** to develop it.

### How Do We Lose Ourselves?

1. **I want to** make a difference (**2 Timothy 1:9 MSG**)
2. **Doing something** that makes a difference (**1 Corinthians 3:12-15**)
3. **With people** who want to make a difference (**Ecclesiastes 4:9**)
4. **In a time** that makes a difference (**2 Corinthians 6:1-2 NLT**)

**The Big Idea: The greatest need in any person’s life is to live a life of significance. *A life that makes a difference.***