

The Gospel Paul received from Jesus, both the revelation and its application in our lives, brilliantly weaves together how our broken identities and fallen living is healed, hearts are mended, relationships resorted, and fractured living is displaced by new life in Christ. And all this comes through the peaching of Christ and Him crucified. In a word: GRACE.



# Ephesians 3:4-6

As you read what I have written [in this letter], you will understand my insight into this plan regarding Christ. God did not reveal it to previous generations, but now by his Spirit he has revealed it to his holy apostles and prophets.



### Ephesians 3:10-11 (NLT)

God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.



# WHAT IS PURPOSE AND HOW DO YOU MEASURE IT?

"...stable and generalized intention to accomplish something that is at once personally meaningful and at the same time leads to productive engagement with some aspect of the world beyond the self."



#### To make the unknowable known!

#### Ephesians 3:10-11 (NLT)

"God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom..."

#### 1 Timothy 6:16 (NRSV)

It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see...



# Ephesians 1:22-23

And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

See the glory, the majesty, the purpose of the church, His bride!



# Colossians 1:9-10 (NRSV)

"...you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God."



# Steve Taylor Ph.D "The Power of Purpose": Why is a sense of purpose so essential for our well-being?"

"The need for purpose is one the defining characteristics of human beings. Human beings crave purpose and suffer serious psychological difficulties when we don't have it. Purpose is a fundamental component of a fulfilling life."

### 5 Observations About Purpose:

- 1. It starts with "Being"
- 2. It's in "Love"
- 3. It's "Relational"
- 4. It's "Multi-faceted"
- 5. It's "Demonstrative & Visible"



# 1. It starts with "Being!" Eph. 1:3a "All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

Out of his Father's heart he wanted a family and so predestined our adoption through Christ Jesus to himself...

All doing comes from being!



#### 2. It's in love

God is not purpose driven, but love motivated.

Eph. 1:4b-5 (NIV)

"In love he predestined us"



#### 3. Its Relational

God's chosen medium, his delivery system for the revelation of who he is, is a family of children to the Father, and a Bride for His Son.

# Relationship is the medium because relationship is also the message!



#### Eph. 6:12 (NLT)

For we are not fighting against flesh-andblood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

When you walk in true purpose, it clarifies who and what the true enemy is.



# Eph. 4:11-12 (NLT)

Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.



# Eph. 4:16 (NLT)

He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.



#### 4. Its Multi-facetted

# Eph. 3:10 (AMP)

So now through the church the multifaceted wisdom of God [in all its countless aspects] might now be made known [revealing the mystery] to the [angelic] rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.



There is a future waiting for you that is beyond your ability to imagine... That's normal life with Jesus... God doing "...superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us..." Ephesians 3:20 (AMP)



#### 5. Demonstrative and Visible

# Eph. 3:10a (NLT)

"God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom"

# You were made to be displayed!



#### Matthew 5:14-16 (MSG)

"Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven."



Eph. 1:17-19a "...the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe."



