1. **EQUIP – 5**

May the people raise you, O God. Then the earth will yield its harvests.

1. What Is Our Purpose

A discipleship journey which continues with what God has called to do and being purposeful and intentional in our walk.

**MEETING EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Respect each other’s privacy

(do not ask for contact number, no business transactions)

2. Honor the vision of this church

(do not promote or invite to other church events and programs)

3. Humility and Order

(humble despite disagreements. Other questions can be discussed after the class)

**SHARING:**

Living with intention and purpose mean living with the awareness. Life can take a different turn when we do not steer with a compass A need for purpose and direction is needed.

How we get the compass?

By seeking God’s calling, plan and purpose to be achieved through us.

Matthew 6:33

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. NIV

What is added can be seen in the context of verse 31 which talks about “what will we eat, drink or wear.” So, we can see seeking God’s kingdom leads to both the physical and the spiritual state of a person.

A helpful prayer would be to ask, “Lord, what do you have for me to do TODAY for Your kingdom?”

It puts God first above the demands of life, affirming His path as the compass in our life.

Without a compass, the ship would be lost.

While it may be big, filled with endless treasures, experienced and spectacular, it will be on the road to nowhere when there is no direction. On the alternative, the ship would drift would to wherever the current takes it, to lone places, to storms or to the rocks. Chance carries the ship.

Much like our life, without an inner compass, we would also be carried away unknowingly.

2 Corinthians 5:15

And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. NIV

Now since our life is in the intentional hand of the Creator who made all of creation in all its’ beauty and purpose, then we find our purpose in the hand of God.

With Christ leading the way to fulfilling our purpose, we can enjoy the journey knowing that God is in control in every season.

Warren Wiersbe wrote: When your service is the most difficult, God may be doing His deepest work in your life, so don’t run away.

God uses you to build His work, but He also uses the work to build you as He prepares you for the next assignment as well as for eternal service in glory.”

JESUS is our inner compass leading us to our defining purpose.

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. NIV

3 Questions To Ask:

1. Is it in line with God’s heart in me being a blessing to others?

Jeremiah 6-7

Jeremiah was saying:

In God’s eye, you are a different nation, called, set apart. Women are taken care of, slaves are treated with humanity, jubilee.

But it is given to you to stand up for the people God put in your care.

; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.”NKJV

We can ask: “Does the way I handle money, power, fame and the other rewards of my job benefit only primarily me, or does it contribute to the good of my colleagues, my organization and my community? Will I stand up for what is ‘right’ in a world that rewards what is ‘wrong’?”

*(theologyofwork.org)*

2. Am I making room for God to move even if it might not be the one I prefer?

Jeremiah 37

Don’t jump to make the call

Don’t make a hasty decision

Let God lead you.

3. Are my biblical values being compromised?

Jeremiah 6:15-16

This refers to standing firm, taking up a position.

Which leads to standing firm in the faith

Firm on the measure or standard that God sets. For: justice, integrity, gender identity, and sexual morality

In this way, we begin to see the direction our ship (we) are heading in through the lens of God.

Adapted from resources:

Kingdom Series Bible Study by Joshua Yee

The Christian Faith by Joseph Stump

Roots and Wings by Edmund Chan

**DISCUSSION**:

Objectives of discussion:

Deeper thought learning

Interactive and Engaging

Going slow to build strong foundations

A. Steering With No Direction (Ecclesiastes 1:8-18, 12:1, 13)

1. Despite his wisdom, why does the writer seem depressed?

2. What in his final analysis and conclusion then?

3. How can we live an intentional and purposeful life?

4. What is a key takeaway you learnt from this verse?

5. What are some new insights and revelations you learnt today?

B . Leading Nowhere (Ecclesiastes 1:2-7)

1. What does it mean by “vanity of vanities”?

2. What does “nothing new under the sun” mean?

3. How can we move away from the futility of life and endless pursuit?

4. What is a key takeaway you learnt from this verse?

5. What are some new insights and revelations you learnt today?

C. Purpose Driven Life (2 Tim 4:5-8)

1. What are the marks of a purpose driven life here?

3. How is Paul a good example?

3. How can one have a purpose driven life? Share examples from the Bible or your personal experience.

4. What is a key takeaway you learnt from this verse?

5. What are some new insights and revelations you learnt today?