



Hilton Head Island
community church

“Love, Unity, & Purpose ” Devotional Guide

Day 1: Created for Purpose

Devotional

Have you ever wondered why you're here? What your purpose is? In Ephesians, Paul reveals something profound about who we are and why we exist. We aren't random collections of atoms wandering aimlessly through life. We are masterpieces—God's workmanship—created with intention and purpose.

This truth changes everything about how we see ourselves. Your value doesn't come from your achievements, appearance, or abilities. It comes from being handcrafted by the Creator of the universe. And not just created, but created for something specific.

God has designed you with your unique personality, gifts, and experiences for a reason. The skills you possess, the passions that drive you, even the challenges you've faced—all are part of God's intentional design for your life. You are perfectly equipped for the mission He's called you to.

What's even more beautiful is that while our individual assignments may differ, we share one overarching purpose: to glorify Jesus and make Him known. Whether you're teaching children, serving the homeless, excelling in business, or caring for your family, your ultimate purpose remains the same—to reflect Christ to a world that desperately needs Him.

Today, embrace the truth that you are not an accident. You are God's masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works that He prepared in advance for you to do.

Bible Verse

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." - Ephesians 2:10

Reflection Question

How might your perspective and actions change today if you truly believed you were perfectly designed by God for a specific purpose?

Quote

"Our purpose, it's not vague, it's specific. Right? We have a specific purpose. Every single individual in this room has one purpose. And it's very specific. And we are literally handcrafted for this assignment. Like, God has formed you in a perfect way for a perfect mission, for a perfect time."

Prayer

Father, thank you for creating me with purpose and intention. Help me to see myself as your masterpiece and to recognize the unique ways you've equipped me to glorify you. Guide me to walk confidently in the good works you've prepared for me. In Jesus' name, amen.

Day 2: Saved by Grace

Devotional

Grace is the heartbeat of the gospel. It's the unmerited favor of God that reaches down to us when we could never reach up to Him. In Ephesians, Paul makes it crystal clear: our salvation is entirely a gift. We don't earn it, deserve it, or contribute to it in any way.

This truth is both humbling and liberating. Humbling because it reminds us that we bring nothing to the table—our salvation is completely dependent on God's generosity. Liberating because it means we don't have to strive to earn God's love or approval. It's already ours in Christ.

When we truly grasp the magnitude of God's grace toward us, it transforms how we relate to others. How can we withhold forgiveness from someone else when we've been forgiven so much? How can we look down on others when we stand only by God's grace?

Grace dismantles pride. It shifts our focus from our own accomplishments to Christ's finished work. Instead of saying "look at me," grace teaches us to say "look at Jesus."

Today, let the reality of God's grace wash over you anew. You are loved not because of what you've done, but because of what Christ has done for you. And from that place of receiving grace, extend it generously to others.

Bible Verse

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." - Ephesians 2:8-9

Reflection Question

In what area of your life do you find it most difficult to receive or extend grace, and how might embracing God's grace change that?

Quote

"Pride says, look at me, where grace says, look at Jesus."

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank you for your amazing grace that saved me when I could not save myself. Help me to live from a place of gratitude for this gift, extending to others the same grace you've shown me. Remove pride from my heart and help me point others to you rather than myself. Amen.

Day 3: Rooted in Love

Devotional

Trees that withstand fierce storms don't do so because of their height, but because of the depth of their roots. Similarly, our spiritual strength doesn't come from outward appearances or achievements, but from how deeply we're rooted in Christ's love.

Paul prays that the Ephesians would be "rooted and grounded in love." This agricultural metaphor paints a powerful picture. Roots provide both nourishment and stability. When we're rooted in Christ's love, we draw sustenance from it daily, and it anchors us when life's storms rage.

This love isn't just a warm feeling—it's a transformative power. It enables us to love others in ways that would be impossible in our own strength. It gives us the capacity to love those who are different from us, difficult to love, or even hostile toward us.

When we're truly rooted in Christ's love, it affects everything: how we speak to our family members, how we treat our coworkers, how we welcome strangers, and how we respond to enemies. It becomes the defining characteristic of our lives.

Today, consider the depth of your roots. Are you drawing daily nourishment from Christ's love through prayer, Scripture, and community? Are you allowing His love to anchor you when difficulties arise? The deeper your roots grow in His love, the more your life will display that love to others.

Bible Verse

"That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." - Ephesians 3:17-19

Reflection Question

What practical steps can you take today to deepen your roots in Christ's love, and how might that change how you interact with others?

Quote

"Trees withstand not because of height, but because of the depth of their roots."

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for your immeasurable love. Help me to be deeply rooted in that love so that I can stand firm through life's challenges and extend your love to everyone I encounter. May your love be the source of my strength and the defining characteristic of my life. In Jesus' name, amen.

Day 4: Breaking Down Walls

Devotional

We live in a world of divisions—political, racial, economic, social. These divisions don't stop at the church door; they often find their way into our faith communities too. But Paul's message to the Ephesians is revolutionary: In Christ, the dividing walls of hostility have been demolished.

Ephesus was a city marked by deep divisions between Jews and Gentiles, slaves and free, rich and poor. Into this context, Paul declares that Christ has created "one new humanity." The cross doesn't just reconcile us to God; it reconciles us to each other.

This unity isn't about ignoring our differences or pretending they don't exist. Rather, it's recognizing that what unites us in Christ is infinitely greater than what divides us. At the foot of the cross, we stand on level ground—all sinners in need of grace, all recipients of mercy we didn't deserve.

Jesus considered this unity so important that He specifically prayed for it before His crucifixion. He knew that our oneness would be a powerful testimony to the world of the gospel's transforming power.

Today, consider what walls might exist in your heart—prejudices, judgments, or grievances that separate you from fellow believers. Ask God to help you see others as He sees them and to embrace the unity that Christ died to create.

Bible Verse

"For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility." - Ephesians 2:14

Reflection Question

What "dividing walls" do you struggle with in your relationships with other believers, and what step could you take today to begin breaking down those walls?

Quote

"We're all parallel people before the cross. The ground is parallel. We're even. We're all in it together."

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank you for breaking down the walls that divide us. Forgive me for the times I've contributed to division rather than unity. Help me to see others through your eyes and to actively pursue peace and reconciliation. May our unity as believers be a powerful witness to your love. Amen.

Day 5: Living for God's Glory

Devotional

What's the ultimate purpose of the church? Is it to meet our needs? To make us feel good? To provide community? While these may be benefits of church life, Paul points to something far greater: the glory of God. "To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations," Paul writes. Our primary purpose, both individually and collectively, is to glorify God—to make Him famous, to showcase His character, to reflect His beauty to the world.

This focus on God's glory changes everything. It shifts our attention from ourselves to Him. It transforms our worship from self-expression to God-exaltation. It reorients our service from building our reputation to building His kingdom.

When we're focused on God's glory rather than our own recognition, unity flourishes. The petty conflicts and power struggles that often plague communities dissolve when we're all working toward the same goal: magnifying Jesus.

This doesn't mean we become faceless cogs in a machine. Rather, we find our true identity and purpose when we're living for something bigger than ourselves. We were created to reflect God's glory, and we experience the deepest fulfillment when we're doing exactly that.

Today, ask yourself: Is my life centered on making myself known or making Jesus known? Are my choices, words, and actions pointing others to His glory?

Bible Verse

"To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen." - Ephesians 3:21

Reflection Question

In what specific ways could you shift your focus from seeking personal recognition to promoting God's glory in your family, workplace, and church?

Quote

"It's not about us, it's not about me, it's not about you. It's about Jesus, period. And every breath that we take as a church should be focused on making Jesus famous."

Prayer

Heavenly Father, forgive me for the times I've sought my own glory rather than yours. Help me to live with a single focus: making Jesus famous. May everything I do and say point others to you. Use my life to bring glory to your name throughout all generations. In Jesus' name, amen.