

spiritual infant

DISCIPLE ME

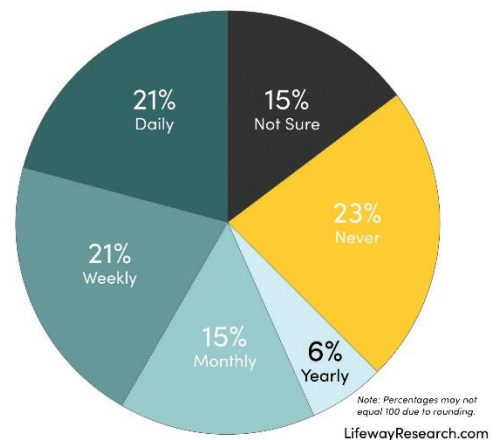
THE ONE ABOUT PURPOSE

PART 1: THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION

READ: THE IMPORTANCE OF PURPOSE

What is the purpose of life? This is a question that has puzzled humans for centuries. Philosophers, theologians, and scientists have all offered varying explanations. But one thing is clear: having a purpose is essential for personal growth and fulfillment. Having clarity of purpose in life gives a person direction and meaning. Research has shown that people who have a clear sense of purpose are happier, more resilient, and more successful than those who don't.

"How often do you wonder: 'How can I find more meaning and purpose in my life?'"



DISCUSS:

- Where are different places that people find purpose?
- If someone asked you what your purpose was, how would you answer them?

READ: NOW WHAT?

Assuming you've made the decision to make Jesus your Lord, Savior, and Boss of your life, what happens next? If He's the one calling the shots, how does that impact your purpose? How does it influence or direct how you live and what you live for?

In the next three Discipleship discussions, we are going to discover what the scriptures have to say about what God's purpose is for those who have chosen to follow Him. Before putting Him in charge of your life, your purpose was up to you. But now that He's in charge, what is it that He wants you to spend your time and energy doing?

STUDY: 2nd Corinthians 5:17-20

Read 2nd Corinthians 5:17-18

- In verse 17, what does Paul describe as happening to those who are “in Christ”?
- What is it that Paul says God “gave us” in verse 18?
- What does reconciliation mean? *(feel free to look up the definition if needed)*

Read 2nd Corinthians 5:19-20

- According to Paul, how did God “reconcile” or restore the relationship between Himself and humanity?
- What do you think it means to be Christ’s ambassador?

READ: THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION

When we begin to consider our new purpose as followers of Jesus, Paul indicates that part of our purpose or our job is to help other people reconcile or get reconnected to God and His story. As Christians, our role as ambassadors or representatives of God and His Kingdom involves helping other people find their way back to God. Paul calls this “the ministry of reconciliation,” which can be a pretty intimidating phrase, but what it practically means is as someone who follows Jesus, one of your top priorities becomes helping other people find their way to Jesus, just as you have.

DISCUSS

- How does it feel to know that once you start following Jesus, you become His ambassador or representative?
- What are some things you can do to help your family, friends, and neighbors begin to find their way to Jesus?
- Are there any specific people in your life right now who God could reach through you?
- Are there any challenges or obstacles that you can see that might keep you from fulfilling this purpose in your life?

CHALLENGE:

- You’ve probably had people in your life who helped you find your way to Jesus. Take some time this week and write a letter to at least two people who had the biggest impact in your life as God’s representatives. Make sure to share with them how much of a difference they made in you being reconciled to God.