

# The Five Purposes

What is God's purpose for my life?

**I'm Curious About...** God's Purpose for my life. Again, this has been put together so you can understand what God thinks about your purpose. You'll also have a chance to dig into the Bible for yourself!

## Definitions

**Reach:** Sharing the Good News about Jesus Christ with non-believers. Also known as *evangelism*.

**Connect:** Spending time with fellow Christians who will encourage you, keep you accountable, and track your spiritual growth. Also known as *fellowship*.

**Grow:** Growing deeper in your personal relationship with God through prayer, Bible study, and other spiritual activities. Also known as *discipleship*.

**Serve:** Using the talents God has given you to help others in need. Also known as *ministry*.

**Honor:** Giving GLORY to God in everything that you do, and taking time to personally ADORE Him. Also known as *worship*.

**Reach:** In Mark 16:15, Jesus called His followers to "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone." As Christians, we know the Truth that Jesus lived a perfect life, died to save us from our sins and then was raised from the dead. Instead of keeping this Good News to ourselves, we are called to *reach* out to those who don't have a personal relationship with Jesus. A practical first step is to invite a non-Christian friend to church or share your story of how you came to Christ.

**Connect:** God has created each of us with a desire to belong. It is impossible to grow as Christians without the presence of a group of believers who can accept us, encourage us, and love us. The Christian life isn't meant to be done alone! The best way to *connect* is to join a Christian Bible-study or attend a youth group at a Bible-teaching, Bible-believing church.

**Grow:** In addition to growing alongside other Christians, it is important to know how to *grow* in our relationship with God. In the Bible, Jesus would often find a quiet place where he could be alone, speak to God, and study God's Word. We must copy Jesus' example by taking the time for ourselves to pray and read the Bible.

**Serve:** 1 John 3:18 says, "Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions." True love is not a feeling but a commitment of humility and service to others. God has created all of us with a unique set of abilities. Instead of using these skills for our own benefit, we are called to use them to *serve* others. A Bible-teaching, Bible-believing church is a great place to start serving, and there are also plenty of opportunities to serve in the community.

**Honor:** In 1 Corinthians 10:31, the Apostle Paul writes, "Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." Worshipping God goes far beyond singing to Him at church. We must *honor* God with everything that we do, always giving thanks and glory to Him. We also honor God by obeying his Word.

**Going Deeper:** Read Luke 10:27 and reflect on Jesus' commands to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength" and to "love your neighbor as yourself." How do these commandments relate to the five purposes?

Everyone needs to connect with God. If you need help in growing your faith, talk to the pastor or youth pastor at a Bible-teaching, Bible-believing church.