



**TRACK 1: DISCOVERING YOUR GIFTS**

**PURPOSE IN SERVING**

**ICEBREAKER: STOPPED IN YOUR TRACKS**

Think about your home or your workplace. When something's *off* - not broken enough to panic, but wrong enough to be annoying - what do you usually have to stop and fix before anything else can move forward? What are the things that stop you in your tracks so that you can make it right?

**STUDY: FINDING PURPOSE**

When most of us hear the word *purpose*, we instinctively turn inward. We think about passion, fulfillment, and the thing that makes *us* feel most alive. And while those things matter, Scripture keeps nudging us in a different direction. Biblically, purpose isn't something you uncover by looking internally - it actually becomes more clear when you start giving yourself away.

God never gives gifts randomly. He gives them *on purpose*, and that purpose is almost always tied to people, not platforms. Spiritual maturity doesn't mean your desires disappear. It means you've grown enough to place them second. Real growth shows up when we're willing to sacrifice what we want for the good of others - and in doing so, we often discover that our purpose was never meant to end with us.

**READ 1 Peter 4:10-11**

- What do you make of the following phrases that Peter uses as he talks about the purpose of our gifts:

<b>Each of you</b>	
<b>Whatever gift</b>	
<b>Serve others</b>	
<b>Stewards</b>	
<b>So that... God may be praised</b>	

- Here, Peter says we are *stewards* of God's grace. What do you think that means?

Your purpose isn't a title you earn or a platform you build. It isn't a perfectly tailored role, and it's not some future moment you're waiting to arrive. Purpose shows up in quieter, less glamorous ways. It looks like availability when you could stay comfortable, faithfulness when no one is watching, humble obedience when recognition isn't coming, and consistent service when quitting would be easier. God doesn't reveal purpose to impress us - He reveals it to position us, so His grace can reach others through us.

- Who is someone whose sacrificial service made a real difference in your life?
- In what ways are you still carrying the fruit of their service today?

## **STUDY: PURPOSE IN EVERYDAY LIFE**

In Colossians 3, Paul takes the idea of purpose and plants it right in the middle of everyday life. For Paul purpose isn't found in a special role or a spiritual environment - it's revealed in *how* we show up where we already are. Whatever we do, whether it's speaking, working, leading, or serving, Paul says we're to do it in the name of Jesus. That means our ordinary actions become sacred when they're offered to God and done for the good of others.

### **READ Colossians 3:17-25**

- What is one responsibility or task in your life right now that you struggle with?
- How could reframing this work to be something you do *for the Lord* help you?
- What ways could God use your faithfulness in this area to be a steward of His grace?

Colossians 3 reframes purpose as faithfulness in the unseen places. Paul reminds us that God is paying attention long before people are. Our motivation shifts from approval to obedience, from recognition to responsibility. Serving wholeheartedly - especially when it feels unnoticed - isn't wasted effort; it's worship. When we give ourselves fully to the work in front of us, we aren't just completing tasks - we're reflecting Christ.

## **CHALLENGE: DO IT FOR THE LORD**

This week, choose **two specific tasks** - one at home and one at work - that you normally don't enjoy doing. These should be ordinary, recurring responsibilities, not special projects or one-time favors. When you do these tasks, make a conscious shift in your motivation. Instead of doing them for approval, obligation, or to avoid consequences, intentionally do them for the Lord. Let your attitude, effort, and faithfulness reflect that choice, even when no one notices or says thank you. Take note of what God does in your heart as you begin to do these things for Him instead of others.