

PURPOSE, CALLING and ASSIGNMENT

THREE PARTS TO LIFE IN GOD – From Kalel & Carla Pratico...

1. Purpose & Identity – First, you must know your Identity and purpose

- Knowing who you are in God
 - can be found in the WORD OF GOD
 - Knowing who God really is WITH YOU
 - Must be found in RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
- You can't comprehend or live in the NEW COVENANT unless you...
- ARE CONFIDENT = KNOW WHO GOD IS
 - ARE CONFIDENT = KNOW WHO YOU ARE IN GOD
- If you live and minister OUT of your God given IDENTITY and PURPOSE
 - Then you will live as God intends you to – You will be a source of life to all around you
 - If you live out of hurt, the destruction of God's purposes
 - Then you will not live out of love, - you will project your hurt to others
 - The fruit of your life will be pain and suffering – You will impart pain and suffering to others..

2. Calling – Second, you must know what God has called you to

- What God has called you to BE
 - Can be found in the WORD OF GOD
- God has a calling for everyone
 - It is What God has called you to BE
 - It is what God has called you to DO in the body
 - The wrist must be connected to the hand and the arm
 - The wrist must operate under the direction of the head...
- What God has called you to DO
 - Must be found in RELATIONSHIP with God
- Obedience is different than calling
 - I am called to "love others" – Everyone is expected to love – love is a command
 - I am called to "be kind" – Everyone is expected to be kind – kindness is a command
- The difference between Calling and obedience...
 - I am called to prophesy, encourage, - Yes, everyone is called to prophesy and encourage
 - But some are called as Prophets – minister primarily as prophetic people
 - Some are called as Encouragers – minister primarily as pastoral people

3. Assignment – Finally, You must know your assignment in life

- Discovering your Assignment in life is a JOURNEY
 - Can only be found in RELATIONSHIP with Him
- It comes from hearing His voice and understanding what He is leading you to DO
- **What is your assignment in life?**
 - o It can be found in relationship with God
 - o We see this in all Bible stories
 - Moses – Let my people go
 - Started out in Pharaoh's palace – then wilderness – then back into Egypt
 - Joseph – dreams, visions
 - Started out with visions at home – Sold into slavery – In jail – 2nd in command
 - Jesus – I am doing just what the Father has told me to do

- Started in heaven – Born as a baby – lived with disciples – died on cross – Raised
- **Do you know that the calling of God INCLUDES periods of great difficulty**
 - **We have a weeny faith**
 - We don't truly know who God is... Or what our calling is
 - Because we expect things to "GO WELL" = God is blessing us
 - But the true life with God includes periods of INCREDIBLE TESTING
 - Will you pass the test and Hold on to God
 - Will you let Go and miss the
 - Gal 6:7-9 (NKJV) Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.** [8] For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. [9] **And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.**
 - **Do you succumb to immaturity? – A poor foundation..**
 - Do you believe that periods of difficulty mean
 - God is punishing you – for something that you did (even though you repented)
 - God is not Good – that He is not really using all things for our good
 - God does not love you – or has forgotten about you

Purpose (includes Identity)

- Knowing who you are in God = Identity

1. God is good

- Do you really believe that God is good all the time?
 - The enemy wants us to believe that God withholds goodness from us
 - That God is not always good... sometimes he forgets us.. or abandons us
- Rom 8:28-30 (NIV) **And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.** [29] For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. [30] And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.
 - The enemy tries to convince us that God doesn't care about us
 - That God has forgotten about us...
- The truth is that God has different Goals for us than we have for ourselves
 - **Our goals include comfort and leisure- That more leisure = "rest"**
 - The Goal of God is sabbath – Good work/rest balance
 - Isa 58:13-14 (NIV) "If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the LORD's holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, [14] then you will find your joy in the LORD, and I will cause you to ride in triumph on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob." For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.
 - **Our goals include wealth and plenty = we think that this will make us "content"**
 - God's goal is supply all of our needs
 - Php 4:11-12 (NIV) ...I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. [12] I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.
- His goal is to make us CONTENT IN (not because of) every situation
 - TO give us peace

2. The Good News is actually good (God loves us – has created a way to live abundantly)

John 3:16-21 (NIV) **For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son**, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. [17] For **God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.**

Jhn 10:10 (NKJV) The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. **I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.**

- **That the Good news is GOD LOVES US and GAVE HIS LIFE SO THAT WE CAN LIVE**

3. Grace abounds (GRACE IS OUR PORTION – Rather than sin and judgement)

Rom 5:19-21 (NKJV) For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. [20] Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. **But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, [21] so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

- That God is waiting to forgive us and give us His goodness for our

4. God loves you the same as Jesus

Jhn 17:20-26 (NKJV) "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; [21] that **they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me. [22] And **the glory which You gave Me I have given them**, that they may be one just as We are one: [23] **I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one**, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. [24] "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me **may be with Me where I am**, that **they may behold My glory** which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. [25] O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. [26] And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, **that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.**"

- We are IN CHRIST – GOD LOVES US JUST LIKE JESUS

- We must "put on love"

5. God always desires to heal us

- Mat 10:1 (NIV) Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

- This is the challenging one. 90% of people who are sick recover and are completely healed

- Why isn't everyone healed! We wait on the Lord for the answer to this question.

- The truth is that he loves EVERYONE and wants to heal EVERYONE

- The enemy wants to get us to believe that someone there is something that we have done so that He cannot, or doesn't want to heal us

6. God does not punish us

Psa 103:8-14 (NKJV) The LORD is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. [9] He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever. [10] **He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities.** [11] For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; [12] As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. [13] **As a father pities his children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him. [14] For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.**

- Sin comes with its own punishment –

- If we abuse our bodies, neglect our minds and ignore our spiritual life

- We suffer the consequences of these sins

- God is the source of forgiveness and healing – He is not a big man with a stick

7. God loves His enemies

Mat 5:44-45 (NIV) But I tell you, **love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, [45] that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.**

- God continually treats His enemies with affection.
- Thankfully, He does not give them what they deserve!

Rom 2:4 (NIV) God's kindness leads us to repentance?

8. You were created to be the object of God's affection

Jhn 15:9-11 (NKJV) "**As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. [10] If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love,** just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. [11] "**These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.**

- Do you realize that God stands ready to reveal His love to you
 - If we have experienced lack of love from our parents or friends we may not expect love
 - If we are wounded, we may carry this wounding into our church family
 - Yes, We all have "church hurt," but that is not from God

9. Nothing can separate us from God's love

Rom 8:38-39 (NKJV) For I am persuaded that **neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, [39] nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

- The attempt of the enemy is to convince us that we have done something that keeps God from loving us
 - The real truth is that God is shaping us in the baptism of fire
 - He wants to make us strong and purposeful
 - so that we don't bend when the wind of resistance comes or
 - get destroyed by the fire of persecution

10. You have full legal access to the inheritance of Jesus

Rom 8:16-17 (NIV) The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that **we are God's children.** [17] Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, **if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.**

Luk 22:28-30 (NIV) You are those who have stood by me in my trials. [29] And **I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me,** [30] so that **you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones,** judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

- God gave Jesus

Calling – Second, you must know what God has called you to DO

Eph 2:10 (NIV) For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- We were designed by God with gifts, talents and desires
- God prepared (in advance) the “good works” that he designed us to do
- Your calling is not up to you... God has a calling on your life

2Pe 1:10-11 (NIV) Therefore, my brothers and sisters, **make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, [11] and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

- Understand and Become Secure in your calling...
- If you live in your calling – you won't stumble (get distracted or sidelined)
- You will receive your reward

Eph 4:1-16 (NIV) As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to **live a life worthy of the calling you have received.** [2] **Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.** [3] Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.....[11] So **Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,** [12] **to equip his people for work of ministry, so that the body of Christ may be built up [13] until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.** [14] **Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.** [15] Instead, **speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.** [16] From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

- We must know and LIVE in the calling of God
 - o Must be completely humble, gentle and patient with another (to do this)
 - o Must make every effort to keep the unity (not competition etc..)
- Jesus gave some to APOSTLES, PROPHETS, EVANGELISTS, PASTORS and TEACHERS
 - o FOR THE PURPOSE OF
 - EQUIPPING THE SAINTS FOR MINISTRY
 - THE BUILDING UP OF THE BODY OF CHRIST
 - o The Goal of Mutual Ministry
 - Building up
 - Unity among believers
 - Knowledge of God
 - Maturity
 - The stature of Jesus
 - o Maturity
 - No longer infants
 - Will not succumb to the “Waves of doctrine”
 - Will learn to “speak the truth in love”
 - Grow in our calling (our body part)
 - Grow in our connection with the Head (jesus)

What is your calling

TO BE

- Surrendered to God
- In relationship with God
- Obedient to the call of God

TO DO

- To love God with all your heart, soul mind and strength
- To love others as you love yourself
 - 30 ONE TO ANOTHER MINISTRY COMMANDMENTS
- To be the “member” of Christ’s Body that He has created you to be
 - Do what God has created you to do
 - EDIFY (build up) OTHERS
 - COMFORT OTHERS
 - EXORT (encourage) OTHERS
- THE VOCATION THAT HE HAS CALLED YOU
 - Take the TALENTS – the resources that God gave you & PUT TO WORK
 - Play Violin
 - Manage properties
 - Raise Children
 - Preach the Gospel
 - Start/ Manage Businesses
 - Doctor – guide people into health
- IT’S A JOURNEY
 - Remember Joseph...
 - Remember Moses...
 - Remember Jesus...