

# ***The Mystery of God's Purpose***

## **Making Sense of Life's Mysteries— Part 2 - April 28, 2019**

*“God has let us know the mystery of his purpose, according to his good pleasure which he determined beforehand in Christ...” Eph. 1:9 (NJB)*

### **LIFE ON EARTH IS A TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT.**

*“For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to our everlasting home in heaven.” Heb. 13:14 (LB)*

### **LIFE ON EARTH IS A TEST.**

*“If you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?” Luke 16:11 (NLT)*

### **LIFE ON EARTH IS A PREPARATION.**

*“...God is using your sufferings to make you ready for his Kingdom.”  
2 Thes. 1:5 (LB)*

## **WHAT ON EARTH SHOULD I BE DOING?**

### **1. GOD WANTS ME TO LOVE HIM.**

*“... Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.” Matt. 22:37-38 (NIV)*

*“Long before he laid down earth's foundations, God had us in mind, and settled on us as the focus of his love.” Eph. 1:4 (Mes)*

*“The Lord takes pleasure in his people.” Psalm 149:4 (GN)*

### **2. GOD WANTS ME TO LEARN TO LOVE OTHERS.**

*“The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these.” Mark 12:31 (NLT)*

*“... Love your spiritual family...” 1 Peter 2:17 (Mes)*

*“... God... has given us the privilege of being born again so that we are now members of God's own family.” 1 Pet. 1:3 (LB)*

*“...We belong to each other and each of us needs all the others.” Rom. 12:5 (NLT)*

### 3. GOD WANTS ME TO **BECOME** LIKE HIM.

*“In your lives you must think and act like Christ Jesus.” Phil. 2:5 (NCV)*

*“From the very beginning God decided that those who came to him—and all along he knew who would--should become like his Son...” Rom. 8:29 (LB)*

*“... We look at the Son and see God’s original purpose in everything created.” Col 1:15 (MSG)*

*“As the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him.” 2 Cor. 3:18b (TLB)*

### 4. GOD WANTS ME TO **SERVE** HIM.

*“God made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us to do good works, which he planned in advance for us to live our lives doing.” Eph. 2:10 (NCV)*

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” Col. 3:23-24 (NIV)*

*“If you insist on saving your life, you will lose it. Only those who throw away their lives for my sake and for the sake of the Good News will ever know what it means to really live.” Mark 8:35 (LB)*

### 5. GOD WANTS ME TO **TELL** OTHERS ABOUT HIM.

*Jesus: “In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world.” John 17:18 (MSG)*

*“Make the most of your chances to tell others the Good News.” Col. 4:5-6 (LB)*

*“Through Christ, God has made peace between us and himself, and he gave us the work of telling everyone about the peace we can have with him...So we have been sent to speak for Christ...” 2 Cor. 5:18,20 (NCV)*

*JESUS: “I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.” John 17:4 (NIV)*

*“This world is fading away, along with everything it craves. But if you do the will of God, you will live forever.” 1 John 2:17 (NLT)*