

## **Renewal of Purpose**

**- Ron Stullenbarger -**

Most of us live our lives in constant pursuit of finding out why we're here, seeking the answer to the question: *"What am I uniquely made for?"* And we look for the answers in all the wrong places. We look for our purpose in each other, in the ever-changing whims of society, or internally, in what seems to make us feel good in the moment. But God has a better purpose for our lives than we could ever find in the world. He has a purpose so great, so powerful, and so lasting that when we get a glimpse of it, we will forever be changed.

In response to the question of what the greatest commandment is, Jesus replies, *"and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these"* (Mark 12:30-31). Our purpose here on earth is to love God and love others. God has chosen to use love to bring about salvation. He's chosen to use love as the catalyst for spiritual awakening. It is love that is God's driving force, and it is love that He longs to instill in us as our highest goal. Understand today that you are formed and called to love above all else.

Revelation 5:10 says, *"You have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."* We are not purposed to merely suffer and wait for heaven. God's kingdom is here on earth, and we are his workmanship. We are his priests. Matthew 28:19 says, *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*

Your life here is of eternal value. A life spent simply waiting for heaven is a life wasted. God has placed an eternal purpose on your life, a purpose meant to be pursued and lived out every minute of every day. You don't have time to waste. And the compelling truth is, you will never be satisfied until you devote your life to ministering this incredible gospel of restoration and love. Until you pursue seeing God's kingdom come through your job, relationships, and time, you will never experience the joy and passion only God's purpose can bring you. God doesn't have a cookie-cutter mold He tries to fit all believers into. He's formed you for a specific and unique purpose no other believer will be able to accomplish.

So choose today to live your life for your heavenly Father. Work with Him in all that you do. Love Him and others with every fiber of your being. And experience the joy of making a deep, eternal impact with all that you do. May God renew your sense of purpose as you study His Word and pray!