

74 June 18, 2022 – Purpose and Focus

Some of us lose our perspective for life when we approach the end-of-life with a big question mark as to what our purpose and focus is or was for our lives and the lives of those that we love and are responsible for. Sooner or later things happen in our lives that lead us to the big question of "why". Then we look at what Gods plan for our life might be and wonder about the next step as to whether it will fit His plan. Always it seems like one step forward and two steps back as we so-to-speak test the water as to that next step. Trials, tribulations, and crisis always seems afoot and there are more mountains to climb and more valleys of despair. In our earlier years in a worldly life we had no choice but to move forward into sometimes the unknown, stay where we are at and be satisfied with the status-quo, or give up and succumb to the way the world wants us to be – broke and dependent. Some of us seek God as to the direction for our lives but in the hurry-scurry of life we fail to listen and wait for an answer that might be "Yes, No, or Maybe" if we hear it at all.

I personally as a widower have found myself at a crossroads of life with many decisions to make about the future as to facing the future alone or beside a God given companion that might still be in His plan for my life. The clock of time in a fleshly body is against many of us but with mental, physical, and spiritual health at a peak expressed by my family practitioner and cardiologist as being equivalent to a 50-year-old it is way too early to sit back and become useless with a picture of sitting in a wheelchair with poop in a diaper and slobber down my face just waiting around to die. That is not Gods plan for my life and should not be a plan for your life. He says in the Bible Genesis Chapter 3 that man shall work by the sweat of his brow all the days of his life. There are scriptures in I Corinthians that say if you are alone, implying a widower, be satisfied in your circumstances. Should that be if the mind, heart, and body is saying give me more? Dreams and goals with opportunities abound if we just look for them. Finding someone to talk with having similar likes and dislikes with encouragement, ambition, and goals centered around the guidance of the Holy Spirit is definitely a way to light the fire of the Holy Spirit to moving forward to a destiny with purpose and focus.

Today I watched a preaching on YouTube of Stephen Chandler on Elevation Church recommended by a friend, and which was a message made just for me, not to exclude many others with a hope and a purpose that was actually centered on Purpose and Focus. There are no limitations on age when a purpose and focus is in place. This reminds me the old adage of you are only as old as you feel, and with God you are capable of doing anything when a mind and heart is set on Him. Moses led the Israelis out of Egypt at the age of 80, Joshua led the Israelis into the promised land at the age of 80 so why do people give up because of age. The Bible says the time of man is 70 years or 80 years by reason of strength and then we fly away, hopefully I add to Heaven to have eternal life. There is another passage in the Bible that says 120 years is the time of man. So choose life or give up and give in.

Chandlers teaching crossed on many issues using the Scriptures from Luke Chapters 1 and 2, in a teaching "I wasn't left, I lingered". In this year 2022 with lots of signs of the return of Jesus for His church we have to ask what our purpose and focus is for myself as I await His return. It is not a time of "no" but a time of "yes" for focus on Jesus. Realize that we as Christians are set aside to be great in His Kingdom and that we cannot jeopardize a worldly living standard for a Heavenly standard of Eternal Life and be left behind when He returns. Of the ten virgins in the Scripture of Matthew five were faithful and prepared with purpose with the other five lacking purpose so they were left behind. We are not purposed to fit in with others but to fit into Jesus' plan for our lives. This is not a time of looking back to "if only" but looking forward to

Jesus and all He has for us in our destiny predestined at the time of the creation of the world in the Book of Genesis.

The time for decisions is now not tomorrow with looking forward not regretting anything of the past. We must wipe the slate clean of regrets and forgiveness of others as Jesus forgives us. Jesus has a supernatural calling for each of us and He will open doors for our calling by asking Him and His promise to give our request but only if we believe in Him. If you do not activate your purpose of life now it has a way of coming back to find and haunt you. If you teeter on decisions remember that purpose causes you to focus and acquire knowledge, understanding, and wisdom to break the bond of procrastination. He will not leave you behind when He knows your future and you accept the challenge of moving out of bondage and up to His calling. You will find that the new person in you can overcome the old person that is holding you back – reach and grab onto Jesus. He is always teaching us on what we need to learn on our path to our destiny. Living a life of purpose can be awkward but when we do not take things personally, we can actually achieve the impossible and when our focus is on Jesus, we become secure in who we are and thus who we serve. It will be rewarding to hear Jesus say well done, good, and faithful servant. **Amen**