

CREATED TO BECOME LIKE CHRIST

Based on Rick Warren's

The Purpose Driven Life – Part 4

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Sermon Outline Notes

We're here because God has a purpose for our lives.

"From the very beginning God decided that those who came to Him - and He knew who would - should become like His Son..." Romans 8:29 (LB)

"God wants us to grow up ... like Christ in everything." Ephesians 4:15 (Msg)

MY 3rd PURPOSE IN LIFE IS TO BECOME LIKE CHRIST

God made us to become like Jesus. This process is called discipleship.

"In all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28 (NIV)

THREE UNEXPECTED TOOLS

1. GOD USES TROUBLE TO TEACH US TO TRUST HIM.

"...troubles produce patience. And patience produces character, and character produces hope." Romans 5:3-4 (NCV)

"They came to a garden called Gethsemane and Jesus said to His disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.' ... Distress and anguish came over Him, and He said, 'The sorrow in My heart is so great that it almost crushes Me.'" Mark 14:32-34 (TEV)

"Father," He said, "everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from Me. Yet I want your will, not mine!" Mark 14:36 (NLT)

"When tempted, no one should say, 'God is tempting me.'" For God

cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death." James 1:13-15 (NIV)

2. GOD USES TEMPTATION TO TEACH US TO OBEY.

"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil." Matthew 4:1 (NIV)

"Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Hebrews 4:14-16 (NIV)

"Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted." Hebrews 2:18 (NIV)

"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." 2 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV)

"'Get out of here, Satan' Jesus told him. 'The Scriptures say, Worship only the Lord God. Obey only Him.'" Matthew 4:10 (LB)

"Fix your thoughts on what is true and good and right." Philippians 4:8a (LB)

3. GOD USES TRESPASSES TO TEACH US TO FORGIVE.

"People passing by shook their heads and hurled insults at Jesus ... and the elders made fun of Him... Even the bandits who had been crucified with Him insulted Him in the same way." Matthew 27:39-44 (TEV)

"Jesus said, 'Father, forgive these people, because they don't know what they are doing.'" Luke 23:34 (NLT)

"You meant to hurt me, but God turned your evil into good to save the lives of many people, which is being done." Genesis 50:20 (NCV)

"We go through exactly what Christ goes through. If we go through the hard times with Him, then we're certainly going to go through the good times with Him." Romans 8:17 (Msg)