



What Am I Here For? Philippians 3:3-11

19 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, **20** teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

- Matthew 28:19-20

Paul Finds His Purpose

- I. *Paul Before Christ [Philippians 3:4-6]*
 - A. *Motivated by achievement, status and passion*
- II. *Paul Encounters Christ [Acts 9: 1-19]*
 - A. *Encounters Christ and finds his purpose*
 - 1. *Acts 9:15*
- III. *Paul After Christ [Philippians 3:7-11]*
 - A. *Only one thing matters... knowing Christ.*

God Has A Purpose For You

- I. *General*
 - A. *Great Commandment - Matthew 22:37-38*
 - B. *Great Commission - Matthew 28:19-20*
- II. *Specific*
 - A. *Ephesians 2:10*
 - B. *Romans 12:3-8*

Reflection Questions

1. *Do you currently have a cause or mission approach in your relationship with God?*
2. *Who are people in our Oikos that are waiting on you to help point them to the Good News of Jesus Christ?*
3. *What mission might God have for you because of your unique SHAPE**
 1. *Spiritual Gifts*
 2. *Heart (Passion)*
 3. *Abilities*
 4. *Personality*
 5. *Experiences*

*Congratulations Your Gifted, Doug Fields

Acts 9:1-18: But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. 4 And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” 5 And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” 7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. 8 Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

10 Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” 11 And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” 13 But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. 14 And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” 15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” 17 So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized;

Philippians 3:3-11: 3 For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— 4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

God doesn't mind your enjoyment of legitimate pleasures. He isn't upset that you like your job, food, possessions, or relationships; in fact, these are gifts from him. The problem comes when you look for *meaning* in these things—because at that point you're trying to find in them something that they weren't designed to provide.

-Tony Evans Study Bible