



Week 5: Made for a Purpose

FACILITATOR'S NOTE:

- ✓ Start your group discussion with the “Check-in” question to help your members reflect back on their week and follow up on last week’s application challenge.
 - ✓ Review the “Big Idea” to help you gain clarity around the heart of this week’s message and focus your group’s discussion towards a clear direction.
 - ✓ Read this week’s scripture passages together and guide your group through the “Discuss” questions to initiate meaningful dialogue around key concepts or insights from this week’s message.
 - ✓ Move your group discussion to a deeper level by leading them through questions in “Apply”. Use discernment to customize these application questions to meet the needs & dynamics of your group.
- NOTE:** You do not have to cover all the questions provided in “Apply”.
- ✓ Connect with God together as a group through this week’s “prayer practice”, which can be in the form of a prayer exercise or some guidance on what to pray for in relation to the message or application.

CHECK-IN	This past week, what promptings have you sensed God speaking to you in the areas of serving someone in need, or the community, or the world? If you came across an opportunity to respond to a prompting this week, please share how.
BIG IDEA	We exist on this earth for some undetermined period of time. During that time we do things. Some of these things are important. Some of them are unimportant. And those important things give our lives meaning and happiness. <i>You were created on purpose, for a purpose, and with a purpose. That involves God and His purposes, and it involves people and how you can best serve.</i>
DISCUSS	<p>Read Ephesians 4:10 together (Please leave adequate time for the APPLY section this week).</p> <p>We will be adopting some questions from a <i>How to Study the Bible</i> online resource to help us to interpret the passage. Supplementary questions follow each of the “big questions” in order to connect them to the sermon message. The beauty of using a set of “big questions” like these is that we can apply them to any Scripture passage. Choose at least one question from each question type.</p> <hr/> <p>1. What does this teach me about God? Who does God say we are? For what</p>

did He create us for? When was all this planned?

2. **What does this reveal about my sin (or the human condition)?** What are some things that slow down our journey along the purposes that God had in mind for us?
3. **How does this point to Christ's redemption?** Read **Ephesians 4:8,9**. What is the difference between serving as a response to grace vs. serving to achieve a work objective? (It may help to read in context with Ephesians 4:10)
4. **What is the one truth that I need to apply to my life this week?**
Move to the Apply section.

APPLY

How do we respond to God's teaching in meaningful ways? What might God ask of us in mind, spirit, or actions?

In order to develop more effective application responses for the wide variety of serving experiences that each group member might have, it might be useful to discuss each of the application activities from your context.

Application Activity	Not Currently Serving	Currently Serving
1. Discuss your serving experiences.	Reflect on what are the current "red dot" issues present in your life right now on your journey towards God's purposes for you.	Discuss the biggest difficulties you encounter when serving. And, Discuss the greatest satisfactions you receive from serving.
2. Review the Bridge's Website - "Serve" tab. Look through the descriptions of the wide varieties of serving opportunities. Sign up or request more information on a serving opportunity.	Ask group members for a first person description of their experiences serving in any of the opportunities listed.	Provide a description to group members of your experiences serving in any of the ministry opportunities listed.
3. Get Equipped for Serving. Discover Your Purpose. <i>"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."</i> Sign up on Bridge website https://thebridgemarkham.com/discoveryourpurpose/	Commit to attending Discover your Purpose to discover your gifts and passions	Commit to attending Discover your Purpose to learn more about how to take your service to the next level. Or, If already attended, encourage or come alongside someone who has not attended Discover Your Purpose by sharing how your gifts and passion

			are being used to do God's good works.
PRAYER PRACTICE	<p>Pray with the Scripture from 1 Peter 4:10-11 – Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.</p> <p><i>Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for Your gift of grace. We praise You and we glorify You. We give You thanks for Your great Love. We praise You, for You came to fulfill the Father’s will. We pray and pledge that we will walk with love. May we be of service to as many as we can in our lives as You called us to be, as is the Father’s will. Amen.</i></p>		