

Speak to My Heart, God

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Words of Faith

When You Wonder If Life Has Any Purpose

Why was I born? What is the purpose of my existence? What am I worth to God?

Have you ever asked yourself these questions? I have. In fact, I was considering all this just the other day as I sat in my big old chair (where I often pray), worshiping our Father by rehearsing aloud all that He is and has done. As I did, my mind went to the amazing truths of Ephesians 1. I thought of the magnificence and power of our Father in creating the world and in forming man from the dust of the earth. Then I thought of Ephesians 1:4:

"He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world!"

Awesome, isn't it? To think that even before God created the heavens and the earth, He knew you and me, and He chose us!

Following this, my mind went to the fact that God has the course of history all planned out. God's plan wasn't broadsided by Satan in the Garden when that evil deceiver tempted Adam and Eve to sin. Everything was already in place, for Jesus was already the Lamb of God, slain before the foundation of the world. And so I began to thank our Father for making "known to us the mystery of His will," and for "the administration of the mystery...hidden in God" for all these ages (Ephesians 1:9-10; 3:9-10).

God has a plan, and neither man nor the devil can thwart it. Then my mind went on to Ephesians 2:10 where He tells us that before the foundation of the world our Father prepared the good works that we are to walk in! Talk about understanding our worth! Talk about knowing that our lives have a purpose!

Do you know this truth, my friend? And are you living in the light of it?

Do you realize how absolutely precious you are to God? Do you realize the significance of your life? It has a purpose. A specific purpose! As Ephesians 1:11 says, we live "according to His purpose"—and His purpose is always the very best!

You are not an accident! You are not useless. You are not worthless. You are not unredeemable. Your worth and purpose in this life do not depend on who you are, on what you have done, or on

what has been done to you. Your worth and purpose do not depend on where you have been, even if you have been to the very precipice of hell.

Your worth and purpose depend on God and God alone—His will, His calling, His choosing, His love.

“He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption...through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will” (Ephesians 1:4-5).

God paid the dearest of prices to redeem you from your life of sin and independence from Him. You were dead in your trespasses and sins; you were condemned to death row for all eternity. And justly so because of your sin. Yet the Father gave His Son to die in your place by the most brutal of deaths. He did this when you were still walking your own way, not even realizing the price He was paying. And had you known it, you probably wouldn't even have cared! That's how lost you were!

God loved you when you were His enemy. When you were a sinner, ungodly, and without hope, He loved you, pursued you, and wooed you. And He did not let go until you gave in and succumbed to His desire to be your Father, your God, your Lord, your Master, your Redeemer (read Romans 5).

Have you begun to comprehend the breadth, length, height, and depth of Christ's love for you, a love that surpasses knowledge (Ephesians 3:14-21)? Or are you walking around, lost in the maze of the enemy's lies? Are you blocked at every turn by thoughts and feelings that lead you down dead-end paths? Are you confused, not knowing where to go, where to turn, or what to do because you are being led by your own emotions, your own feelings, your own suppositions? Or are you living by the evaluations, the opinions, the counsel of others rather than by the absolute truth of God's inerrant Word?

Our peace, our happiness, our well-being, our soundness of mind, our effectiveness all go back to what we believe—and *whom* we believe.

It does not matter what you experience, what you feel, what you think or hear. If it does not agree with the Word of God, then it is a lie and has its origin with the great deceiver, the father of lies (John 8:44).

Don't miss the knowledge of your worth and your purpose in this life by believing his lies. Choose to believe God, no matter what.

Ultimately, then, it comes down to: *Where will you put your faith?* In the character of God, in the Word of God, or in a lie? You alone can decide that. It's up to you. This is the choice God gives you. And no one can decide for you.

Everything you are going through, all that you are dealing with, has one ultimate purpose: that you may know the love of God and live in the light of His extravagant and more-than-adequate

grace, which has been poured out on you. That is what you were born for: an intimate relationship with God. That is the purpose of your existence. That is what you are worth to Him.

But this intimate relationship requires two things: First, that you set aside time so your heavenly Father can communicate with you through His Word and through His Spirit. Second, that you spend time communicating with Him in prayer.

If you want intimacy with God your Father, then you will have to make the time for it. And if you realize that it must be your highest priority, then nothing will stop you.

When nothing stops you and you put yourself in the position for God to meet with you, you will find that everything else falls into proper perspective because you know His voice when He says, "This is the way, walk in it." And you'll walk in confidence, knowing without a shadow of a doubt that you are

"His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10).

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