

“Perfecting Believers Series”

(A Five-Part Teaching Series Challenging Believers to Be Complete in Every Way)

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West Angeles Church: “*Perfecting Believers*”

◆ DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES ◆

(Perfecting Believers for Service to Christ,
to One Another, and to the Global Community)

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“Preaching the Good News and Perfecting Believers IS the Business of the Church.”

Week Four’s Topic: Purpose By Design

Personal Quote: “Why am I here?”

(Week Five’s Topic: The Perfected Believer Serving Christ, One Another and the Global Community)

COMPLETE OUTLINE

I. It’s at the Heart of Humanity

God has personally planted E_____ and P_____ within the human H_____,

M_____ and S_____. Each human being has this longing for P _____ fulfillment.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NKJV – New King James Version)

He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts,

Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds

Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NLT- New Living Translation)

God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart

In the Beginning there was Purpose: Genesis 1:1 – The Nature of God as C _____ reveals purpose within the _____. God created humans with a P _____ for P _____.

We are **obligated** to pursue God’s purpose in order to enjoy being fully human. Purpose (creative productivity and occupation), therefore, is at the very heart of what it means to be human and only humans have this God-given *genetic structure and mandate* to pursue purpose in a conscience and goal-oriented manner.

II. Your Three-Fold Purpose:

❖ For P _____

Genesis 1:27-28, KJV So God **created man in his own image**, in the image of God created he him; **male and female** created he them.

²⁸ And **God blessed them**, and God said unto them, Be **fruitful, and multiply**, and replenish the earth, and **subdue it**: and **have dominion over** the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

1 Timothy 4:15, NIV Be **diligent** in these matters; **give yourself wholly** to them, so that everyone may see **your progress**.

❖ For P _____

Jeremiah 1:5, NKJV “**Before I formed you** in the womb I knew you; **Before** you were born [Hebrew: *before you came out from the matrix*] I **sanctified** you; I **ordained** you a prophet to the nations.”

❖ For P _____

Praise appears 217 times in the KJV. The phrase Praise the LORD [all caps] is one Hebrew word H _____.
Psalm 150:6, NRSV Let **everything that breathes** praise the LORD! **Praise the LORD!**

III. While Pursuing Your Purpose You Will Experience:

❖ Some P _____

Jeremiah 20:18, New Living Translation

Why was I ever born? My **entire life** has been filled with trouble, sorrow, and shame.

Your purpose may be forged in the C _____ of human experience.

❖ Some P _____

❖ But Much Inner P _____

Because you have hope and a wonderful future:

Jeremiah 29:11, NKJV For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of **peace** [Hebrew = *shalom* – peace, safety, health, prosperity] and not of evil, to give you **a future and a hope**.

Jeremiah 29:11, NIV For **I know the plans** I have for you,” declares the LORD, “**plans to prosper you** and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Isaiah 26:3, NLT You will keep in **perfect peace** all who trust in you, whose **thoughts are fixed** on you!

❖ You will have P _____ you never knew you had.

If you lack confidence and think you are not up to the job God called you to do, consider Gideon’s Divine Call to the impossible task God set before him. See Judges 6:11-16.

❖ Your P _____ will begin to be unleashed.

Your work for God and for Good is NOT in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58, NIV Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. **Let nothing** move you. [KJV = unmovable] Always **give yourselves fully** to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord **is not in vain**.

Jeremiah 31:16-17 NIV This is what the LORD says: “**Restrain** your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, for your work **will be rewarded**,” declares the LORD. ¹⁷ So there is **hope for your future**,” declares the LORD.

IV. In Order to Reach Your Purpose There Must Be:

❖ Much P _____

❖ More than enough P _____ and P _____

❖ Exceptional P _____ and P _____ 1 Timothy 4:15 P _____ (Greek meaning)

❖ Lots of P _____ (Mentors, Supporters, Customers - Buyers, Users of the Product/Service)

King David had rich financial supporters, Barsillai = 2 Samuel 19:32 – [KJV **Barzillai* . . . was a very great man. NKJV = *Barsillai*. . . was a very rich man. NIV, NRSV = *Barsillai* . . . was a very wealthy man.]

❖ Continual P _____

V. Your “Perfecting My Purpose” Assignment: Stop! Look! and Listen!

1. Stop doing nothing and living aimlessly and start living by God’s Calling in your life.

Devise a plan for your vocation and your occupation.

2. Look outside yourself and your own personal interests for opportunities to serve people.

* Remember: God perfects who you are by your interactions with other people (*the good, the bad, and the ugly!*).

3. Listen to God and the godly people He has placed in your life.

Some Hints for Discerning the Will of God

1. First seek personal maturity in your personal life.

2. Search the Word for what it says regarding your search. (Find able Bible resources and individuals who can accurately, and rightly divide the Word of Truth. (2 Timothy 2:15)

3. Pray and meditate regarding your next step. Listen and let God speak to you through His Word.

4. Then seek mature believers for wise counsel.

5. Seek wise, sound professionals who specialize in your area of concern.

Details:

When EXACTLY will you start?

Who will hold you accountable to your aim? (Get a friend, a coach, someone in your small group, someone in your class or prayer group to assist you in perfecting that which is lacking in your life.)

BONUS: The Will of God, Some Scriptures (Take Personal Inventory, Read and Do)

Romans 12:2 (KJV) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Romans 12:2 (NIV) Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2 (NRSV) Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ephesians 1:1 (KJV)

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

2 Corinthians 8:5 (KJV) And *this they did*, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.

2 Corinthians 8:5 (NLT) Best of all, they went beyond our highest hopes, for their first action was to dedicate themselves to the Lord and to us for whatever directions God might give them.

Ephesians 6:6 (NIV)

Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.

Colossians 4:12-13 (KJV) Epaphras, who is *one* of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. ¹³I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis.

1 Peter 4:2-3 (NKJV) that he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.

³For we *have spent* enough of our past [□]lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.

1 Peter 4:2-3 (NLT) And you won't spend the rest of your life chasing after evil desires, but you will be anxious to do the will of God.

³You have had enough in the past of the evil things that godless people enjoy—their immorality and lust, their feasting and drunkenness and wild parties, and their terrible worship of idols.

1 John 2:17 (NIV) The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

*Cut or copy the Pursuing the Will of God plaque below and place it where you can see it.
It will serve as a reminder regarding the pursuit of God's Will in your life.*



*Discover and
Passionately Pursue
the Will of God.*

Colossians 4:12: "Perfecting Believers" (*discipleship*)
West Angeles Church of God in Christ

Dr. Kenneth Hammonds, *Life, Leadership & Discipleship* COACH
Bishop Charles E. Blake, *Pastor*