

Finding God's Purpose for Your Life

1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6

Introduction

As a next step after studying spiritual gifts, and in response both to folk honestly not really knowing what God's will is for their life and to those who are in career transition, it's appropriate that we (re)visit the very important question of how to find God's purpose for your life.

"Individuality – Always remember that you are unique. Just like everyone else." Despair.com

God definitely created you unique among all humans. The specific details about how he made you and the experiences you have had so far in life equip you like no other for a specific purpose. But what? How can you determine what that special purpose is? How can you find your special purpose?

Paul mentored Timothy to help him understand God's unique design.

Biblical Background

1 Timothy 4:14 - ¹⁴Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed upon you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.

1325 διδομι didomi {did'-o-mee}

a prolonged form of a primary verb (which is used as an altern. in most of the tenses); TDNT - 2:166,166; v

AV - give 365, grant 10, put 5, show 4, deliver 2, make 2, misc 25; 413

- 1) to give
- 2) to give something to someone
 - 2a) of one's own accord to give one something, to his advantage
 - 2a1) to bestow a gift
 - 2b) to grant, give to one asking, let have
 - 2c) to supply, furnish, necessary things
 - 2d) to give over, deliver
 - 2d1) to reach out, extend, present
 - 2d2) of a writing
 - 2d3) to give over to one's care, intrust, commit
 - 2d3a) something to be administered
 - 2d3b) to give or commit to some one something to be religiously observed
 - 2e) to give what is due or obligatory, to pay: wages or reward
 - 2f) to furnish, endue
- 3) to give
 - 3a) to cause, profuse, give forth from one's self
 - 3a1) to give, hand out lots
 - 3b) to appoint to an office
 - 3c) to cause to come forth, i.e. as the sea, death and Hell are said to give up the dead who have been engulfed or received by them
 - 3c) to give one to someone as his own

3c1) as an object of his saving care

3c2) to give one to someone, to follow him as a leader and master

3c3) to give one to someone to care for his interests

3c4) to give one to someone to whom he already belonged, to return

4) to grant or permit one

4a) to commission

Have you ever had someone tell you that you were really good at something? It is possible that you were having someone affirm your gifting or even your calling.

2 Timothy 1:6 - ⁶And for this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

NIV - For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

God has given you gifts, talents, abilities, and a call to match them. Don't waste your life pursuing things that are someone else's calling.

"I believe that when we take the time to see how fearfully and wonderfully we are made, we come alive. We experience a peace and joy that is fulfilling. Our hearts are at rest and we fulfill the purposes of God for our lives in our generation." - John Woodall

Practical Application:

Our lives will not be judged by God in comparison to someone else's life. We will be judged against the potential of how God uniquely made us.

How do you expose the unique way God designed you? Tests, comments from others, life visions, website: <http://www.northpoint.org/gameplan>

Take advantage of opportunities. Volunteer for ministry.

Conclusion:

Our lives will not be judged by God in comparison to someone else's life. We will be judged against the potential of how God uniquely made us.

What did you do with the talents God gave you?

Success in running the race God specifically planned for us is, "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

"If you are here, you haven't finished what you were put here to do. The greatest part of your life, your purpose, is yet to be lived." - Andy Andrews (*The Seven Decisions*)