

# Wednesday Night BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday, May 28, 2025 – First Baptist Church Buda  
Midweek Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

## T H E B O O K O F EPHESIANS *How to live the Christian life*

**EPHESIANS: HOW TO LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE – PART 19**  
*“God’s Eternal Purpose and You” - Ephesians 3:9-13*

*“<sup>8</sup> To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,<sup>9</sup> and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;<sup>10</sup> to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,<sup>11</sup> according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,<sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. <sup>13</sup> Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.” -Ephesians 3:8-13 (NKVJ)*

- (1) Who/what is it that makes God known?
- (2) What, would you say is the “purpose” of the church? Explain.
- (3) According to our passage (Ephesians 3:8-13) who are to make this known?
- (4) How do we do this? How do you make God’s purpose known to the “principalities and powers in the heavenly places”?
- (5) Why shouldn’t we lost heart in this purpose, even those we may face many trials and difficulties in carrying it out?

### KEY BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR EPHESIANS

To gain a better understanding of the Book of Ephesians, consider the following background information:

1. **Authorship:** The Apostle Paul - Traditionally attributed to the Apostle Paul.

2. **Date of Writing: A.D. 60-63** - Likely written around A.D. 60-63 during Paul's Roman imprisonment.
  3. **Place of writing: Rome** – Paul wrote the book/letter of Ephesians from a Roman prison
  4. **Audience: Ephesian Christians at Ephesus and surrounding area** Addressed to the Christian community in Ephesus, a major city in Asia Minor. Ephesians is considered a “circular letter” meant to be circulated to church in the area of Ephesus... possibly the same 7 churches
  5. **Purpose: How to live the Christian life** To strengthen the faith of believers and address issues of unity and spiritual maturity.
  6. **Themes: Grace, the church, and holy living** - Key themes include grace, the church as the body of Christ, and the importance of living a holy life.
  7. **Structure: Ephesus is divided into two main sections** - Divided into two main sections: doctrinal teachings (chapters 1-3) and practical applications (chapters 4-6).
  8. **Cultural Context: Ephesus was center of commerce and religion** - Ephesus was a center of commerce and religion, known for the Temple of Artemis.
  9. **Significance: Mystery of the gospel and inclusion of Gentiles** - Emphasizes the mystery of the Gospel and the inclusion of Gentiles in God's plan.
  10. **Spiritual Warfare: Ephesians’ emphasis on the spiritual battle** Concludes with a call to spiritual readiness and the armor of God (chapter 6).
- 

### **Application Questions**

1. How would this church be different if you got a vision of God’s eternal purpose? Be specific and practical.
2. What practical effect would it have if Christians realized that their daily behavior was revealing something to the rulers in the heavenly places?
3. Someone asks you, “Why did God permit evil into this world?” Your response?

**Discuss:** *“Prayer is not an intercom to call the maid for more refreshments, but a walkie-talkie to the general from the front lines for more resources for the battle.”* (adapted from John Piper). How would this change your prayer life?

Let me share with you what goes through my mind as a pastor when I read a text like this one, which scrapes the heavens by talking about God’s eternal purpose. I wonder, *“How do these verses relate to people in this church who are struggling with troubled marriages; trying to rear their children; worried about paying bills; juggling busy schedules; and who are grappling with powerful temptations and sins?”* Thinking about God’s eternal purpose may be interesting for theologians and philosophers, but how does it help people who wrestle with the kinds of ordinary challenges that life throws at them?

To answer those questions...

- I first must assume that Paul knew that the people he wrote to in Ephesus were normal people with these same sorts of problems.
- True, they didn't have mortgages to pay or the modern media bombarding them with worldly temptations.
- But, they had common, everyday problems to face.
- So Paul must have thought that it would help them to understand something about God's eternal purpose as it related to them, the church in Ephesus.
- They needed to know this and so do we.

*So then I have to grapple with, how do the truths that Paul sets forth here help us to live more godly lives? What prompted Paul to write these things?*

1. **Paul is raising our vision for what God is doing with the church** – *In what ways do you think Paul might be trying to raise our vision of the God is wanting to do with and through His church?*
2. **All too often, even among Christians the church is viewed as maybe nice (if it's a relatively good church), but rarely as necessary -**
3. **Many who claim to be born again view the church as optional** - If it meets your needs, that's fine! But, if it doesn't, then don't bother with it. It's really not that important in the overall scheme of things. *Why do you think so view the church as "optional" and what does that mean exactly?*
4. **In the world, the church has even less importance** - What matters to the world are things like multi-national peace treaties, the threat of terrorism, global warming, the epidemics, pandemics, health crises, elections and politics, and the fluctuations in the stock market.
5. **The church, most likely, wouldn't make it into a list of the 50 most important matters facing America right now -**
6. **This marginalizing of the church seeps into our thinking, so that we miss God's perspective and priority for His church** – *What do you think about this statement? In what ways does do we as Christians sometimes miss God's perspective and priority for His church?*

What matters to God is the church...

- Christ said, **"I will build My church"** (Matt. 16:18).
- That's what He is doing.
- The church is where His focus lies. **"Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her"** (Eph. 5:25).
- God's eternal purpose centers on Christ and His church.
- **If we want our lives to count for eternity, we've got to get God's vision and purpose for the church and live accordingly.**

*Perhaps you've heard the story of three men who were working on a stone pile at a construction site. A curious passerby was eager to discover what was going on. He asked the first worker, "What are you doing?" "Chiseling stone," was the reply.*

*Trying for a better answer, he asked the second worker, "What are you doing?" "Earning a living." Another washout.*

*He had one more hope. He asked the third worker, "Sir, what are you doing?" He dropped his sledgehammer, stood erect, and with a gleam in his eye exclaimed, "I'm building a great cathedral!"*

*\*All three men were doing the same job, but only one of them saw how his role fit into a larger, more important vision.*

Paul wants us to see how our lives fit into God's glorious eternal purpose for His church. When we see this, it will help us very practically to deal with life's difficult trials. He is saying,

***Since God's eternal purpose is to make known His manifold wisdom through the church, we must pray and not lose heart in our trials.***

There are at least 2 parts to the natural division of the passage in Ephesians 3:9-13...

## **2 Parts to Ephesians 3:9-13:**

**(1) Paul sets forth God's eternal purpose = Ephesians 3:9-11**

**(2) Paul gives two practical applications = Ephesians 3:12-13**

## **GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE IS TO MAKE KNOWN HIS MANIFOLD WISDOM THROUGH THE CHURCH (Ephesians 3:9-11)**

*"<sup>9</sup> and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; <sup>10</sup> to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, <sup>11</sup> according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord."-Ephesians 3:9-11*

This is not an easy topic, so track with me! I will try to explain it under five headings:

## **5 Truths Concerning God's Eternal Purpose:**

**(1) God has an eternal purpose and nothing can thwart it** – And nothing will thwart it... it's futile (useless, pointless, vain, ineffective, ineffectual) and perhaps even dangerous

to get in the way of God's eternal purposes! We saw this in Ephesians 1:9-12... notice it **(READ: Ephesians 1:9-12)** *"<sup>9</sup> Having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, <sup>10</sup> that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. <sup>11</sup> In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, <sup>12</sup> that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory."*

God's eternal purpose is to sum up all things in Christ. He is the centerpiece of history. All of the Old Testament looks forward to Christ. All of the New Testament testifies of Him. All of history will climax when He returns in power and glory to reign. Since He is the head of His body, the church, it is central to God's purpose. It is in the church that God is bringing together both Jews and Gentiles, reconciling them to one another and to Himself through the cross (Ephesians 2:11-22). Paul says (3:8) that his ministry, in addition to preaching to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ...

is also (3:9) *"to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things."* What does he mean? One key to understanding Paul here is to resolve why he refers to God as the one *"who created all things."* If we go back to Genesis (1:26-27), we learn that God created man as male and female to rule over creation and to reflect His image. You have to ask, **"Reflect His image to whom?"** There weren't other people on the earth yet. I believe that God wanted Adam and Eve to reflect His image to *"the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places,"* that is, to the angels, both good and evil. Behind the scenes of human history is this cosmic spiritual battle between the forces of good and evil.

God's purpose for man (male and female) was to rule on earth and reflect His image. That purpose was temporarily thwarted by the fall, but it is being recovered by the new creation, the church (2:15). It is in this sense that we are His fullness (1:23) and that Paul can pray that we would be filled up to all the fullness of God (3:19), so that there will be glory to God in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations (3:21). This is all kind of mind-bending! What Paul is doing is elevating our understanding and vision for what God is doing through the church. Stay with me!

- (2) God's purpose was a mystery hidden for ages, but now brought to light through Paul** – The word, *"mystery,"* as we have seen, refers to something that was previously unknown, but now has been revealed. *"The mystery of Christ"* in Ephesians 3:4 refers to God's eternal plan to sum up all things in Christ, the Savior (Ephesians 1:9-10). But, one application of this mystery was the previously hidden aspect of God's uniting the Jews and Gentiles on equal standing in the one body of Christ (in Ephesians 3:6). The Old Testament predicted the salvation of many Gentiles, but it did not reveal that God would

unite them as one body with the Jews in the church, seat them with Christ in the heavenly places, and display His manifold wisdom through them throughout the ages.

If we ask the question, “Why did God hide this truth for thousands of years?” the answer is, “Because He so willed.” He is the Sovereign of the universe, and as the Sovereign, He has the right to do as he pleases. In Acts 14:16, Paul tells the pagans of Lystra, “*In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways.*” He could have intervened much sooner and made known His way of salvation if He had chosen to do so, but He didn’t. As Paul puts it in Galatians 4:4, “*But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son....*” God knew the right time to send His Son and He did it right on schedule. He has a purpose and nothing can thwart it. Although His purpose was hidden for ages, now it has been revealed. With Paul, we should always be amazed that we have become the objects of His grace!

**(3) God’s purpose was carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord** – Verse 11 of our passage in Ephesians 3:11 says, “*According to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.*” “Accomplished” or “Carried out” in some translations... translates the Greek aorist tense of the verb, “to do.” It points to an accomplished action. God’s purpose was accomplished through Christ Jesus our Lord through His death and resurrection. It was at the cross, especially, that God demonstrated His manifold wisdom.

People often wonder, why did God allow the fall of man into sin? He easily could have made man like the elect angels, so that we would not have sinned and then would be incapable of sinning...

- While we need to be careful not to press the issue too far, we can say that God permitted the fall and ordained the cross because it demonstrated His wisdom and glory in a way that no other plan would have shown.
- God’s sending His own Son to bear the penalty that we deserve displays His wisdom, love, and justice in ways that would not have been seen otherwise.
- His wisdom is displayed in choosing a person who is both divine and human, because no other person could have fulfilled the role of mediator and substitute for our sin.
- He had to be infinitely holy and apart from all sin. He had to be a person infinitely dear to the Father, to give infinite value to His sacrifice.
- No created person, whether man or angel, would have been fit for this task. Only Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, qualified.

*\*I am indebted here to Jonathan Edwards, “The Wisdom of God displayed in the way of salvation,” The Works of Jonathan Edwards [Banner of Truth], 2:142-144.*



- (4) **God's purpose is to make known His manifold wisdom to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places** - Most of us don't often think about the angels, but Paul brings them into the center of God's eternal purpose!

### **What we know about angels Biblically?**

- Isaiah 6:1-3 - We know that the holy angels are in God's very presence (Isa. 6:1-3).
- Daniel 10:15 - They are at war with the fallen angels (Dan. 10:13).
- Luke 2:13-14 / Hebrews 1:6 - The holy angels were especially involved in praising God at the birth of the Savior (Luke 2:13-14; Heb. 1:6).
- 1 Corinthians 11:10 - They have a special interest in the church, so that Paul tells the Corinthian women to wear long hair (or a head covering) in the assembly because of the angels (1 Cor. 11:10).
- Luke 15:10 - They rejoice at the salvation of sinners (Luke 15:10).
- Revelation 7:9-12 - Throughout eternity, we will join the angels in heaven, singing praises to God because of the salvation that the Lamb secured for us (Rev. 7:9-12).
- Ephesians 3:10 - Some scholars think that Ephesians 3:10 refers only to the holy angels, some think it refers to the fallen angels, and some to both. I think it probably refers to both. (The fallen angels are referred to by the same terms in 6:12; in 1:21, it probably includes both.)

To the fallen angels, the church, which exists because of Christ's triumph at the cross, displays God's wisdom and reminds them of their impending doom. The fallen angels thought that they had triumphed at the cross, but God displayed His wisdom by using that very means to gain ultimate and final victory (Col. 2:15). As for the holy angels, through the cross they "see a great and wonderful manifestation of the glory of God" (Edwards, p. 147). Edwards points out that the happiness of angels, as well as of people, consists very much in seeing the glory of God. And, he says (*ibid.*), "Perhaps all God's attributes are more gloriously manifested in this work, than in any other that ever the angels saw." God's mercy, grace, love, justice, and power are all magnified in the substitutionary death and bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus Peter tells us that the angels long to look into the matter of our salvation (1 Pet. 1:12).

- (5) **God's purpose is to make His wisdom known through the church** - F. F. Bruce (*The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians* [Eerdmans], pp. 321-322) says, "The church thus appears to be God's pilot scheme for the reconciled universe of the future, the mystery of God's will 'to be administered in the fullness of the times,' when 'the things in heaven and the things on earth' are to be brought together in Christ (Eph. 1:9-10)." He adds that the church, created by God's reconciling the Jews and Gentiles into one body, is God's agency to help bring about the final reconciliation. John MacArthur explains (*The MacArthur New Testament Commentary, Ephesians* [Moody Press], p. 97), "Every sinner who repents and turns to Christ adds another spiritual stone to God's temple, another member to His Body, and becomes another forgiven and

cleansed sinner who is made eternally one with every other forgiven and cleansed sinner.” We show this wisdom of God to the principalities and powers by being the church that God created. John Piper says, “We don’t usually hit targets that we are not aiming at. And the target for the church is to demonstrate to the evil powers of the cosmos that God has been wise in sending his Son to die that we might have hope and be unified in one body, the church. Therefore, when we fail to live in hope and to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, we send this signal through the galaxies: God’s purpose is failing; he was not wise, he was foolish.”

Again, the overall point that Paul is driving home is to elevate our understanding of the importance of the church in God’s eternal purpose, so that we will give it the proper priority in our lives. He wants us to understand what a great privilege it is that God has chosen us to be the agents of carrying out His eternal purpose through the church.

The church is not just a nice place to drop by on Sundays if you’re not doing anything more interesting! The church is God’s vehicle for making known His manifold wisdom, not only on earth, but also to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. So we must see how our lives count for eternity.

After setting forth God’s eternal purpose, Paul applies it in two ways:

**BECAUSE WE ARE AT THE CENTER OF GOD’S ETERNAL PURPOSE, WE MUST PRAY AND NOT LOSE HEART IN OUR TRIALS (Ephesians 3:12-13)**

*“<sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. <sup>13</sup> Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.” -Ephesians 3:12-13*

## **2 Ways to Apply God’s Eternal Purpose in the Christian’s Life:**

- (1) **Because we are at the center of God’s eternal purpose, we must pray (Ephesians 3:12)** - As I understand Paul’s flow of thought between God’s eternal purpose and prayer, it is this... prayer is the primary means by which the church exercises God’s authority and brings about His rule on earth over the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. This is reinforced at the close of this letter in Ephesians 6:18-20, where immediately after telling us to put on God’s full armor so that we can stand against the devil, Paul calls us to prayer for all the saints, that the gospel may go forward. This means that prayer (to use John Piper’s analogy) is not an intercom to call the maid to bring more refreshments to the TV room. Rather, it is a walkie-talkie to call the general to send more troops and supplies to the front line. Our focus in prayer should be, “Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven” (Matt. 6:10). Prayer is to help advance God’s eternal purpose in Christ through His church. Also, note Paul’s emphasis on the boldness and confident access that we have in prayer through Christ. Martyn Lloyd-Jones





writes (*The Unsearchable Riches of Christ* [Baker], p. 96), “Of all the blessings of Christian salvation none is greater than this, that we have access to God in prayer.”

“**Boldness**” = means that we can come before God without fear of rejection or penalty.

“**Confidence**” = implies familiarity... if you were an aide to the President, the first time you approached him in the Oval Office, you probably would be a bit hesitant and unsure of yourself. But after you’ve gone there a hundred times, you’d enter with confidence.

“**Access**” = means that you have the privilege of admission. If you have access to an exclusive club, the person at the door knows you and lets you in, whereas he will stop someone without access.

We have boldness and confident access to God in prayer. How is this possible? Paul mentions it twice... “in whom,” and “through faith in Him.” It is only in Christ and through faith in Christ that we can approach God’s holy presence to ask Him for what we need to further His kingdom. Prayer is our means of seeing God’s eternal purpose enacted on earth.

(2) **Because we are at the center of God’s eternal purpose, we must not lose heart in trials (*Ephesians 3:13*)** - Paul’s focus was not on himself, even though he was the one in prison, but on these Ephesian believers. He didn’t want them to become discouraged on account of his trials, because they would result in the Ephesians’ ultimate glory.

In *Romans 8:18* Paul wrote, “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.” As he goes on to share in that chapter, God works all things together for our good, using even the trials to conform us to the image of Jesus Christ. So even if persecution comes against us, we should not become discouraged, but rather remember that we are at the center of God’s eternal purpose. Our good and ultimate glory are included in His purpose. The greatness of the cause is worth the hardship of the suffering.

## CONCLUSION

When Apple Computer fell on difficult times some years ago, their young chairman, Steven Jobs, went to New York to try to convince Pepsico’s John Sculley to move west and run the struggling computer company.

As they sat in Sculley’s penthouse office overlooking the Manhattan skyline, Sculley started to decline the offer. He said that Apple would have to offer him an astronomical salary and benefit package. Flabbergasted, Jobs gulped and agreed—if Sculley would move to California. But Sculley would only commit to being a consultant from New York.

Finally, Jobs confronted Sculley, “Do you want to spend the rest of your life selling sugared water, or do you want to change the world?” It knocked the wind out of Sculley. He hadn’t thought of it that way. He accepted the offer and moved west. (From, *Leadership*, Spring, 1991, p. 44.)

Many Christians don’t commit themselves fully to the local church because they’re too focused on themselves and they don’t have the big picture. The church is at the center of how God wants to change the world. It is His eternal purpose to display His manifold wisdom through the church. We should respond by committing ourselves to it and praying for God to use it mightily. We should be willing to endure hardship to see it become all that God wants it to be.

### **To determine God's purpose for your life, consider the following steps:**

- 1. Understand God's purpose: Recognize that God has a purpose for everyone.**
- 2. Seek God through prayer: Pray to discern God's purpose.**
- 3. Study the Scriptures: Read and study God's Word.**
- 4. Be led by the Holy Spirit: Listen to the Holy Spirit's guidance.**
- 5. Recognize personal gifts and talents: Identify your unique abilities.**
- 6. Consider passions and interests: Reflect on what you are passionate about.**
- 7. Observe life circumstances: Look at your life situation.**
- 8. Seek godly counsel: Seek guidance from others who can provide wisdom.**

### **6 WAYS TO REGAIN YOUR PURPOSE**

In his classic book “The Lord of the Rings,” J.R.R. Tolkien wrote a poem that included the line, “Not all who wander are lost.” The same applies to you. Even though, at times, you feel like you’re wandering without any true purpose, that doesn’t mean you’re lost. You can regain your sense of purpose and discover what God has for your life. Here are 6 ways to discover God’s purpose for your life.

- (1) Go to God in prayer** - Let’s start with the obvious. If you feel purposeless, ask God to give you wisdom and direction. James 1:5 states, “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.” That’s incredibly good news. God wants to give you a purpose. He wants to bestow divine wisdom on you. It’s not like God is holding out on you to make you miserable. He desires you to have a joyful, ambitious, purposeful life. Ask God for purpose and expect Him to give it to you.
- (2) Dig into God’s Word** - The primary way God speaks to us is through the Bible. This means that one of the first things you should do in your search for God’s purpose is to start digging into scripture. Now, you won’t find any verses that tell you to become a

dance instructor or painter, an engineer or teacher, but you will begin to understand the heart of God. **Psalm 119:105** says, *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”* God’s word brings light to paths that otherwise seem dark. In the Bible you learn how to live wisely in God’s world, which is the first step toward finding your purpose.

- (3) **Determine your gifts and strength** - God has placed in your life and given you very specific gifts and strengths. Maybe you’re a math whiz or a wise counselor. Maybe you have a mind for electronics or business. Maybe you’re great at organizing people and getting things done. God’s purpose for you probably involves the things you’re already good at. This is where education can be particularly valuable. Going to college or going back to college allows you to discover your gifts and then determine how you’re going to use them. It also connects you with people who want to help you find your purpose. You should commit/dedicate those gifts and talents that God has placed in your life to Him and seek to use them for His glory as a believer. You should also seek opportunities to grow and develop what gifts and strength God has placed in your life. Those gifts and abilities play a role in God purpose in your life. After all, He is the one who gave you those gifts.
- (4) **Determine your passions** - What is one thing you’re particularly passionate about? Really, this can be anything. Business, art, economics, alleviating poverty, whatever. If money wasn’t an issue, what would you love to do? Determining your passions often helps you figure out what God has called you to do. It’s often said that God works at the intersection of our gifts and our passions. Where do your gifts meet your passions? That may be God’s purpose for you.
- (5) **Bring others into your life** - **Proverbs 11:14** says, *“Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.”* In other words, one of the main ways God will help you find your purpose is through others. A caveat needs to be made here. Your counselors should be people you trust. Whether this is your professors, parents or friends, it needs to be people who have your back and want the best for you. You want wise counselors to help you find God’s purpose for you.
- (6) **Spend some time alone with God** – Perhaps many fail to really understand and appreciate the importance of developing a quiet time, a daily devotional time with the Lord and times of solitude away with the Lord. These times are not only important just for our daily growth in the Lord. You can’t and won’t grow without them. But they are also important to help us, as believers, to find our bearing in the Christian life and to better understand/grasp His purpose in our life. Sometimes it can be incredibly helpful to get away from it all and take some unhurried time to think, pray and journal. You don’t have to spend a week in the woods for this to be effective. Even just a day away from the hustle and grind can be hugely rewarding. During these retreats, allow yourself to simply be still. To ponder. To ask God for direction and listen for His voice. This doesn’t need to be complicated and doesn’t require any elaborate rituals. **Hebrews 11:6** is a reminder that God always rewards those who seek him. He’s not hiding in the dark, trying to keep his will hidden from you. He wants to guide you.

**Ultimately, trust God...** Trying to discover your life purpose can be a stressful, overwhelming thing. It can seem like such a big, confusing, frustrating subject. You want to move forward, but you're not sure how. You want to find your purpose, but you feel like you're aimlessly wandering. But you can trust God to lead you where he wants you to go. As Psalm 23:2-3 says, *"He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake."* You may feel confused, but God doesn't.