

"For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep, and was laid among his fathers and underwent decay." - Acts 13:36

Many people have no clear purpose for their lives. Even believers can go through life never realizing God's plan for them. Only through discovering His purpose for us can we experience genuine fulfillment. The Bible says in Acts 13:36 that David died after he fulfilled the purposes of God. Are you fulfilling the purposes of God? Will that be said about you when you die?

QUESTIONS:

1. What is God's unique plan for your life?
2. What purpose does the Father have for you?

The apostle Paul described the life of King David by mentioning that he "served the purpose of God in his own generation" (Acts 13:36). How can you honor or serve the purpose of God in this lifetime? You can honor the Lord with your daily choices—at work, at home, and in the community. Serving God is not limited to church and missionary work. The best way to experience a fulfilled life is to live for the Lord (Ps. 34:10).

How did David serve the purpose of God? The first thing he did was be faithful where he was - by working as a shepherd. David was the youngest of eight sons, and his task was to tend the sheep (1 Sam. 16:11). In that humble role, he submitted to his father's authority. Also, as David protected the animals, he learned how to fight courageously—a valuable skill he later put to use as a warrior.

Because he was faithful as a shepherd, he later had a bigger plan for his life - by fighting Goliath. David recognized that the true nature of the battle with the Philistine was spiritual. He boldly approached the giant in God's strength and demonstrated the awesome power of the name of the Lord (1 Sam. 17:45-48).

You and I are given a similar opportunity when people criticize Christians or our faith. Instead of remaining silent, we should defend the name of Jesus Christ, who gave His life on our behalf and faithfully cares for us day by day.

QUESTIONS:

1. How do you find out the purposes of God for your life? How did David do it?
2. Do you think the purposes of God are revealed as you obey the ones set before you?

David grew into his life's ultimate plan. This happened only as he followed God in previous times. He was obedient to authority. King Saul became jealous of David's tremendous success in battle and tried on a number of occasions to kill him. But despite the king's animosity, David remained committed to serving Saul.

When you find yourself in a difficult situation—perhaps facing criticism or persecution—you also have a chance to serve the Lord. If you trust Him instead of lashing out, you will be serving His purpose for your life. You and I are to fight our battles on our knees, not by attacking other people.

QUESTIONS:

1. What happens to God's plans as we focus on others (criticism, persecution, etc.)?

David also learned to wait for God's timing. David's men urged him to kill Saul when he had the chance. But to his followers' surprise, he refused to harm the man Samuel had anointed as king (1 Sam. 24:6). David determined to wait for God to give him the kingdom.

The world won't always understand our decisions either. But when you respond to life's opportunities and crises in a godly fashion, you model the authentic Christian life.

QUESTION:

1. Do you make the right decisions based on God's purposes?
2. Do you have trouble trusting God with timing? How did David trust God's timing?

David also served as an illustration to others. David's life provides a powerful example of both the Lord's forgiveness and the consequences of sin. Although he committed adultery with Bathsheba and arranged for Uriah's death, he repented of his sin after Nathan confronted him. God forgave him, but his rebellion had consequences. After David's sin with Bathsheba, his life was filled with heartache and pain.

Most people in our society want to be able to rebel against God and avoid the repercussions. Our heavenly Father graciously forgives our wrongdoings, but we will always pay the price for our disobedience.

David fulfilled the purposes of God by writing songs. The book of Psalms contains many lyrics written by David. This collection gives us an intimate glimpse of the relationship between a man and his Creator. In fact, every human emotion—from love and devotion to jealousy and hatred—is expressed in it. Because of David's contribution to the Word of God, his life has served the Lord's purpose—not just for his generation, but for thousands of years after it.

QUESTION:

1. Has God given you a talent that you are not using for Him?
2. How can you begin using your talents for God?

Do you know your purpose of life? As a Christian, you should live in such a way that your life will make an impact for God. Your attitudes and actions should count for His kingdom. My friend, I pray you will seek the Father's will and surrender to His leading. The Lord will amaze you with the powerful things He will do in and through your life.

Imagine serving God for your generation. Visualize it.

What are you doing? Where are you serving? How is your generation changed?

The day will come when God will say, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" Will you be able to answer "Yes Lord, my God I served my generation with the purpose that you gave me?"

Fulfill your complete purpose for which God created you to reach this generation. Then it will be said of you, "For _____(your name) served the purpose of God in her own generation."

Notes below are from the weekend sermon.

2 QUESTIONS

1. Spiritual Awakening to Whom?
2. Spiritual Awakening to What?

We are given an **INTERNAL** manual and an **EXTERNAL** manual.

Matthew 6:31-34 NIV

Proverbs 19:21 NIV

Proverbs 16:9 NIV

Jeremiah 29:11-13 NIV

Psalms 20:4 NIV

Ephesians 1:3-6, 11 NIV

Genesis 37:9 NIV

Psalm 37:23-24 NIV

If you are walking in God's will to the best of your ability, no matter what happens, **HE HAS YOU COVERED.**

Psalm 57:2-3 NIV

Psalm 138:8 NIV

God will never **ABANDON** what He **BIRTHED** you to do.

Isaiah 46:10-11 NIV