





Hay un lugar para ti!

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### Why am I here on Earth?

I am the Lord, your creator, who formed you before you were born and who helps you... (Isaiah 44: 2)

**ILLUSTRATION:** Marilyn Monroe was very famous. She was successful and everyone wanted to be with her; but one day as she was entering a big party, she told her friend: "stay with me because I feel very lonely in the middle of this crowd". People can be successful, but it does not mean that they have found the purpose for which they were created.

**INTRODUCTION:** Have you ever asked yourself, why am I here on earth? In 40 Days of Purpose we will be growing spiritually. Why 40 days? 40 days of rain transformed the life of Noah, 40 days in the mountain with God transformed the life of Moses, 40 days of Goliath's threats transformed the life of David, 40 days transformed the city of Nineveh. After 40 days of Jesus being in the desert He returned to the power of the Spirit. After the disciples were with Jesus, 40 days after his resurrection his life was transformed, and in 40 days my life and your life will be transformed as well.

**1. WHY AM I ALIVE?** (*Jer. 20:18 NLT*) This answers the questions as to "why do I exist?" Since ancient times many people

have asked this question, and try to answer based on the following things:

• **Mystic thought.** It is related to the new era, a way of thinking of some people who say: "look inside yourself, the answers are in you". This is logically wrong because if that were the case everyone would be in their place doing what they like.

• The thought of self-help. They seek the answer in seminars, conferences, conventions and books, etc. it is very positive, it is good and it tells you: "you have to invent your own purpose", "fight for your dreams", "follow your goals", "never give up", these people can be successful, but they are not fulfilling the purpose of God in their lives. Your purpose is great and eternal. Your purpose goes beyond possessing riches, or pleasure, beyond all temporary things.

• Philosophical thinking. A Doctor asked more than 250 scholars from the twentieth century, what is the purpose of life? Some evaded answering, others admitted not knowing, and someone said, "Doctor, if you find the answer, send it to me." It's so sad to live without meaning! Humanity has lost guidance and purpose and that's a reason as to why we see so many suicides.

• The only option is to return to our creator's manual. (Proverbs 16: 4 NLT) God created us for his purposes. God created us to love us. (Eph 1: 4-5) We are the focus of His love

**2. DOES MY LIFE MATTER?** (Isaiah 49: 4) Without purpose, life has no meaning (Isaiah 44: 2)

• You are not an accident. (Psalm 139: 16) He thought of us before we were born. There are some who become parents by accident, but there is no such thing as an accidental birth. There may be illegitimate parents, but there are no illegitimate children; There may be unplanned pregnancies, but there is no such thing as a child without a purpose. God loved you in this world, in this time, in this city and has a specific plan for your life.

• Life prepares us for eternity. (2 Cor. 5: 1) The problem is that we live as if we wanted to eat the world, and it should be like pre-k in our lives. What happens in this life is like a little dot in the book of eternity.

# **3. WHY HEAVENS AM I HERE ON EARTH?** (PURPOSE) (Psalm 89:47)

• The only way to find our purpose is in God. (Proverbs 9:10) An atheist Philosopher said the following: "Unless you assume that God exists, then the question of the purpose of life has no meaning." And you and I both know it exists! • It's not about you, it's about God.

**CONCLUSION:** Millions of people are in that same question, the same confusion, the same search for "does my life matter? Why heavens am I on this earth? Why am I alive? The answer to these questions is not in the mystical thoughts or in the self-help, which, although it is good, it is centered in oneself. It is not in the different human philosophies, but it is in God, in His manual the Bible.

**SALVATION PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and I ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so that you may be my Lord and personal Savior, Amen.

#### INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- Why is our life important?
- What were we created for?
- How can we prepare for eternity?

#### PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

• If you have not found God's purpose in your life and you were not reading the Bible, start doing it daily.

• Do not miss the HOP for the next 5 weeks, since God wants to answer your questions and wants to transform your life.

### YOU WERE PLANNED TO WORSHIP GOD

... Surrender completely to God, because before you were dead, but now you have a new life. (Romans 6: 13b NLT)

**INTRODUCTION:** We were created to please God, created for his pleasure (Rev. 4:11). He loves us and He expects to be loved in response to His love. But, in what way can we show God our love? Through adoration. To adore is to express our love to God. To give Him something in return for all of His benefits. All our life should be to adore God.

### **1. WE WERE ALL CREATED TO WORSHIP.** (*Mark* 12:30)

- *We were designed to worship.* We have something in our DNA, our brain circuits are designed that way.
- We are always going to worship something or someone. It doesn't matter what country you are in or what culture you have. Every person worship something because the need to worship something or someone is in all of us. If we do not worship God, we will end up worshiping ourselves. (Rom 12: 1)

# 2. THREE WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN WORSHIP GOD. (Hosea 6: 6)

a) *To worship is to express my affection to God*. Even if you had a bad day, you can fulfill this purpose. Do not stop expressing your affection to God. Maybe you do not know how to do it because in your house there was not many expressions of love and affection, or because you like to keep things to yourself.

But it can be as easy as starting by giving thanks for all His blessings. At the beginning of the day say: "Thank you Lord because you allowed me to live a new day", "Thank you because You saved me from an accident", "Thank you Lord because my family is healthy", "Thanks for my job", etc. Remember that God is your Shepherd and you shall not lack anything. He will supply for all your needs according to his riches in glory. Remember that He has you in the warm hollow of His hand. He has given you a new life. (Rom 6:13)

He is passionate about having a relationship with you. (1 John 4:19)

The Bible says that we love God, because He loved us first. (1 John 4:19) The problem is that sometimes we have not realized how much He loves us. b) To worship is to focus my attention on God (Love Him with all your mind) (Mark 12:30) (Isaiah 26: 3) We must concentrate our thoughts on Him, on His Promises; instead of thinking about illness, think about His promise of healing; Instead of thinking about failure, think that God has plans for good and not evil.

(Psalm 139: 1-3) God knows our thoughts. Every day while we work, we can concentrate our thoughts on Him, not in a religious way, but, for example, asking ourselves: "Will God want me to do this or not?" Because we worship Him by doing right things.

How can I focus my mind on God? Praying naturally (Mt. 6: 6) and conversing with Him, while you are in your car, while you are in your lunch, etc. so you won't fill your mind with anxiety from all the negative things that happens. God keeps those who concentrate their thoughts on Him in perfect peace.

c) To worship is to use my abilities for God. Not only with our thoughts or words, but with our actions. (Col. 3:23) It is not only doing things willingly for Him when we are at church but everywhere, at work, at school, etc. We can worship God with our abilities. It's not about us, it's about God. You do not need to change jobs but change your mentality of who you work for. Worship is not an event; it is a lifestyle. In your job you can worship through your service, you can worship through serving your husband with love as for the Lord. This will change your way you feel; your thoughts and your stress levels will go down a lot.

**CONCLUSION:** Will you decide to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength? Will you decide to do everything you do as for the Lord and not for men? Ask God for forgiveness if what you have done has been independent of Him. Do you have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ? Make the following prayer:

**SALVATION PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and I ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so that you may be my Lord and personal Savior, Amen.

#### INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- How can we live a life that pleases God?
- What do we mean by the word "worship"?
- Why is worship so important in a person's life?
- What can you give to God?

#### PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

• Practice something in your life that makes you a better worshiper. (surrender some areas to God, obey God, be grateful, etc.)

### YOU WERE MADE FOR THE FAMILY OF GOD (FELLOWSHIP)

(You) Are citizens together with all the holy people of God. They are members of the family of God. (Ephesians 2: 19b NLT)

**ILLUSTRATION:** There was a neighbor I met in my childhood who did not have the same opportunities as others. He was a problematic young man, he had rebellion and bitterness because he did not have a family. A person without a family becomes a wanderer, has fewer opportunities in life, has less access to education, does not have the love that surrounds a person within a family, etc. He is also a follower of Christ who does not have a spiritual family.

**INTRODUCTION:** God does not want you to just love Him. He also wants you to love his family. (1 Tim 3:15) The church of God is not a building, it is not an organization, it is not a club, it is a family. Not all human beings are God's family, we are all God's creation, but in order to be children of God it is necessary to have been saved through Jesus Christ (John 1:12).

Every member of a family has responsibilities, and everyone is expected to comply with them and one of the most important is that we love the other members of the family (John 13: 34-35). Next we will learn about different levels in relationships:

#### **1. THE RELATIONSHIP WHERE WE SHARE TOGETHER.** (*Acts* 2:46)

• They cannot grow in a relationship, if they do not share time together, you will not strengthen the companionship, or the relationship in your marriage with your children if they do not share time together. We grow more when we share with other people than when we are alone as lone rangers.

•The habit of meeting is not new, says the Lord in His Word (Hebrews 10:25). The Lord's Church did not meet in temples for the first 300 years because of the persecution. They met in houses and there they grew as God's family. (1 Peter 4: 9)

• You cannot grow if you do not risk sharing. One has to take the risk of getting married, taking the risk of sharing with coworkers, taking the risk of opening up with other people who can help him.

#### 2. THE RELATIONSHIP WHERE WE BELONG TO SOMETHING. (Ephesians 2:19)

• This is the level where you talk about commitment. There cannot be a healthy relationship if there is no commitment, if we do not belong. This is a difference between courtship and marriage. This level tells us about the difference between being a visitor or member of a church, the difference between serving in a church or simply observing what happens. We who are members, have a commitment, we are a family through Jesus Christ. With commitment we show love in the family of Christ, just as a man and a woman do when they commit to get married.

• A follower of Christ who walks alone is an orphan; He is someone who does not have a spiritual family. How do people grow when they are abandoned by their parents? Will they be equally healthy? (like the example of the illustration) God created us to be part of his family and does not want us to be orphans. (1 John 4:21, 1 Peter 2:17)

# 3. THE RELATIONSHIP WHERE WE SERVE TOGETHER.

• By serving one another, love is shown. Example, when the wife makes her husband lunch, or he helps her with the chores around the house, this deepens the love and the relationship.

• In a HOP, relationships are deepened when they serve each other. For example, giving a ride to someone who does not have a car.

#### Two truths that we cannot avoid:

God never planned for you to serve him as a lone ranger. (1 Cor. 3:
9)

• When we work together, we achieve more. (Eccles 4:9) Winning teams and successful teams are not usually because they have a star player on the team. Star players usually do not know how to work with others, they seem to be a lot like lone rangers. God never designed you to serve alone. I designed you to serve with the family of God and in that way reach greater things.

**4. THE RELATIONSHIP WHERE THEY SUFFER TOGETHER.** (*Galatians 6:2*) When we share our sufferings it brings unity, there is an approach through this. There are ties that bind them and that are difficult to break. It's like when a tragedy of nature happens in a city, this makes people join. (1 Co. 2:26) Just like with family, when one suffers, all suffer.

**CONCLUSION:** The most important thing is not the achievements, but the good relations. It does not matter if a marriage achieves much financial success, but that in their relationship they are not miserable. We want Eagles CFC to be recognized not by its buildings, but as a family. People are looking for love but in the wrong places. Will you accept the purpose of God for whom you were created?

**SALVATION PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and I ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so that you may be my Lord and personal Savior, Amen.

#### INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- What are some benefits of belonging to God's family?
- What do you understand by the word companionship?
- Why is it so important that we love each other?

- Choose a HOP buddy to encourage each other to grow spiritually.
- Plan on fellowshipping together, such as going to the park, watching a movie, having a BBQ, etc.

### YOU WERE CREATED TO BE LIKE CHRIST

God arranges all things for the good of those who love him, those who have been called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28 NIV)

**INTRODUCTION:** God does not only want us to know him, but to become more like him: to resemble him in his way of speaking, in his way of acting, thinking and serving. (Eph.4: 15 NLT) How can we be more like Christ? What things will God use for us to look like Him? One of the things is the Bible. There we can see what Jesus was like, how he spoke, how he walked, and follow his example so that when people see us they say: "he acts just as the Bible says Jesus was". Another thing that he will use is the people, which will help us grow and mature. Three other things that God will use are:

- 1. GOD WILL USE PROBLEMS TO TEACH US TO TRUST IN HIM. (Rom 5: 3-4 NIV). It is easy to trust in God when things are good, when you have a job, when you have a pretty chubby bank account. But what happens when there are unforeseen problems caused by others or by ourselves? God is going to use that for us to trust Him.
- God is more interested in who we are. Then in what we do or in what we have because we will not take anything of what we have, our profession nor any possessions. However, there is something that we can take, and it is our character, our way of being: did I trust God or not? How do I behave towards problems? Do I take them well or do I become bitter? Did I look like Christ when

problems came up? How did Christ behave in the face of problems? Every problem has a purpose: *"To be more like Christ."* 

• Our Lord Jesus went through many of the things that you and I experience. (Mark 14: 34-36) Jesus needed his friends the disciples, so they would be with Him in his suffering. It means that when we go through suffering, we should not isolate ourselves. It is good to tell God how we feel, we should not deny the problems, but we must do as Jesus did to God "do not do my will, but yours." For it is not about us, but what He wants to do in us to be more like Him (2 Cor. 4:17). The rewards of my character are greater than the sufferings, because the sufferings are temporary, but the maturity in our character will lead us to a life of rewards in the Lord.

2. GOD USES TEMPTATION TO HELP US

**OBEY HIM.** Every time we pass a temptation, we have two options: Obey the desire for what we are feeling, even if we know it is not right; but we also have the option of obeying God.

• We are trained by our decisions. Every decision we make every day is shaping who we are.

- A test is not the same as temptation. (*Matthew 4: 1*) The trials usually bring us closer to God, but the temptations are designed by the devil to get us away from God. Jesus was tempted but did not sin.
- Sin is not the same as temptation. (Hebrews 5:15) We can avoid sin through our decisions. Somebody said: "You cannot stop the birds from flying over your head, but if you can avoid being made a nest", in the same way, we cannot avoid temptation from coming, but we can avoid falling into it.
- Temptation happens to all human beings. (1 Cor. 10:13) All human beings are tempted, but temptation is an opportunity to show God our love and obedience.
- Temptation will always have an outlet. (1 Cor. 10: 13b)

**3. GOD USES OFFENSES TO TEACH US TO FORGIVE** (*Mt.6: 1*2) We live in a world corrupted by the devil, there is injustice, there are criticisms, there is theft and evil; nevertheless, the Bible tells us that we must learn to forgive. What is more difficult to bear? The tests, the temptations or the offenses that pierce our hearts? Because these all cause pain, they cause wounds in the hearts. However:

- Remember that God has forgiven you (Ephesians 4:32).
- God does not miss anything; He is in control of your life. He knows what you are going through and He wants to use it for your good, if you allow Him to.

**CONCLUSION:** God is not the author of evil, but God uses the problems, the temptations and the offenses to teach us to obey and be more like Him. In the end you will see how God will work for good if you allow him to mature in your character.

**SALVATION PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and I ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so that you may be my Lord and personal Savior, Amen.

#### INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- What areas of our life need to be more like Jesus?
- How has God used tests to help us mature?
- How can we be more like Jesus?
- How do you think you can overcome temptations?

- If you are having a problem, ask God what He wants to do in you through this.
- If you had a lack of forgiveness in your heart, ask God for forgiveness and decide to forgive whoever offended you.

### YOU WERE CREATED TO SERVE GOD

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. (Ephesians 2:10 NLT)

**INTRODUCTION:** We were all created by God for good deeds, the husband, the wife, the student, governor, etc. You were made to serve God. What's important is not how long we live but how much we live. What's important is not how many more years do I have left but how productive will my years be? God has given each of us a calling and has given us the necessary abilities to achieve it. He has given us form; He has formed us.

- 1. SPIRITUAL FORMATION. (Job. 10:8).
- God has given each of us gifts. He has given us shape depending on our function, just as a potter does with clay. We don't all have the same shape because God made us unique. There is no other person in the world that has the exact same DNA as you, that has the same eyes as you, fingerprint, etc. You are unique and He has also given you a unique calling that no one else can do on this earth but you.
- The gifts God has given you are not for your own benefit. (1 Peter 4:10) They are for the benefit of other people. What gifts has God given you?

Your fourth purpose in life is serving God through serving others. You cannot serve God any other way, because He is invisible. **So, how do we serve Him? By serving people.** 

2. FOUR ATTITUDES OUR LORD JESUS DEMONSTRATED IN HIS SERVICE. Jesus came to serve. (*Matthew 20:28*). He also told us to imitate Him.

- a. Serving by imitating Jesus means being available. (Prov. 3:28)
  What good would gifts and abilities do if they are not available? What good would it be for there to be a doctor at your job and when there was an accident, he wouldn't be available? In that same way, we wouldn't be imitating Jesus if we weren't available to others because He was. (Matthew 20:30-32)
- **b.** Do it with gratitude. (John 11:41) When a person is grateful, miracles happen. Jesus first thanks and then gave the order for Lazarus to be resurrected. Gratitude releases power from God.

- c. Do it faithfully. (1 Co. 4:2) Faithfulness speaks of remaining when others abandon the game, staying in place when others give up. That is why in a marriage, they promise each other to remain faithful even if things get difficult. What would've happened if Jesus wouldn't have been faithful and regretted right before going to the cross? What would the world be like if He had not finished the deed? If he ran away once they started whipping Him? If He would've done that, you and I would've gone straight to hell. But that's not what happened, as He was faithful and finished the deed. Do we finish what God entrusts us with? Can God count on us? We should be faithful out of gratitude. Faithfulness brings rewards. (Matthew 16:27) Nothing that you do for God is insignificant, everything you do is important. Your gift is important to God and His church. (Hebrews 6:10)
- d. **Serving by imitating Jesus means being generous.** (*2 Co. 8:9*) (*John 3:16*) Someone said: "You can give without love, but you can't love without giving." Generosity is a virtue of the heart. We should serve others with generosity, that's how we show love.

**CONCLUSION**: It is so important for us to understand that we are formed by God with a purpose: "serving God." Let's ask God to help us serve him with the same attitude as Jesus. With availability, gratitude, faithfulness, and generosity. When we arrive to Heaven, God will ask us, "Did you receive my son Jesus or reject Him?" The second question will be, "What did you do with what I gave you?" What did you do with your time, money, resources, abilities, and gifts I gave you? Are you serving in your church? Let's arrive to Heaven and have God tell us, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

**SALVATION PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so you can be my Lord and personal Savior, amen.

#### INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- What gifts and abilities has God given you? Are you available for Him?
- In what area do you like to serve?
- What has stopped you from serving God?

- Become part of your ministry and serve in your church with your gifts.
- If there are people who have not discovered their purpose yet, pray in the HOP and ask God to show it to them.

### YOU WERE CREATED WITH A MISSION

But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. (2 Timothy 4:5 NLT)

**ILLUSTRATION:** (Mark 2:3-4) On one occasion, four men had a paralytic friend and they came together to take him to Jesus so that He could heal their friend. Since there were many people in the house where Jesus was, it occurred to them to make a hole on the roof to bring the paralytic through there. After that, the man left walking with forgiveness of his sins. In the same way, God wants us to bring people to Him.

**INTRODUCTION:** We were made for one mission, to evangelize. What is the different between ministry and mission? We are full-time ministers because we are always willing to serve others in our church. Ministry is about serving others inside the church, and the mission also speaks about "outside of the church." This means taking the message to others who still are not part of the family of God. (2 Timothy 4:5). This is for everyone, not just pastors. How do we do it?

**1. LOOK FOR SOMETHING YOU HAVE IN COMMON WITH PEOPLE.** (1 Corinthians 9:22).

2. GOD WANTS YOU TO GO TO PEOPLE.

(*Mark 16:15*) (*Acts 1:8*) Jerusalem would be the people who you have nearby, the people in your family, work, school, neighborhood, etc. Tell them all the great things God has done with you and take them to the Lord Jesus. Take them to your HOP. Judea would signify extending a little further, and Samaria means speaking with those who maybe don't have much in common with you in terms of preferences, likes, religion, etc. But they also need to be spoken to about Jesus.

## 3. WHY SPEAK TO OTHERS ABOUT JESUS?

- It is our responsibility. (Luke 12:48) Considering everything God has done in us, it wouldn't be fair to not share it with others. There is more of a responsibility because we know our purpose. More is expected from a person who has been given much.
- We have been given the authority. (*Matthew 28:18-19*) God is so good, since He hasn't only given us the job but also the authority to go and speak to others and pray for them.
- **History is inevitable.** (*Isaiah 14:26-27*) (*Matthew 24:14*) Jesus dedicated Himself to saving people, healing the sick, casting out demons, etc. because He knew the end would come, and that's the same thing we need to do. Sometimes we are very busy and indifferent to the needs of this world. We treasure our privacy and tend to avoid people who are problematic to society. But, that's wrong!

Someone has to be available and say: "History is inevitable, that is why I am going to change the history of a person or thousands of people."

#### 4. WHAT DID JESUS DO TO HELP?

- *(Mark 14:34-36)* The most important thing He did was establish His Church. Church is the way for God to reach the world. A pastor is not enough to transform society. It is through people like you and I, who by sharing our faith and principles that are in the Word transform a generation.
- He placed His trust in ordinary people like you and I who belong to his church, and He has given us an extraordinary calling that is going to make a difference wherever we go, be a light in the darkness.

#### 6. GOD DOESN'T WANT ANYONE TO GET

**LOST.** (2 Peter 2:19)

• How many does God want to get lost? How many homes does God want to get lost? How many youths does He want to be destroyed or suicide? How many does He want to remain bound to drugs? How many does He want to go to hell? The Bible is clear and says **NONE.**  There are many good things to live for, but they are all temporary. We should live with the purpose of eternal things, living for the mission which He created us for. That way, we will have the satisfaction of seeing many in heaven who we spoke to about God. *Will you* respond to the call of God or ignore it? God has called us to win as many souls as possible in as little time as possible, because He doesn't want anyone to get lost.

**SALVATION PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died on the cross for me. I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my heart and my life so you can be my Lord and personal savior, amen.

#### **INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:**

- How can you help those around you who are in need?
- What do you think is the best way to speak to others about Jesus?
- What has been the satisfaction you have felt when you've spoken to someone about the love of God?

- Share your testimony with someone who doesn't know about Jesus this week.
- Make a list of 3 people who you want to invite to church and begin to pray for them so God can make their hearts sensitive and so you can find the opportunity to speak to them.



There is a place for you