

The Christian Arsenal

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MADE FOR A MISSION
The 5th Purpose of Your Life
Revisiting Our Purposes

Dr. Ken Culver

Part 6 of 7

INTRO: Over the last several weeks we have talked about how life is preparation for eternity.

You're going to do four things in heaven forever and ever and ever:

First is worship – To know and love God.

Second is fellowship – to learn to love each other.

Third is discipleship – to learn to become like Christ.

Fourth is service – to learn to use my SHAPE for serving.

The fifth purpose is the only one you won't do in heaven – you can only do it on earth.

Jesus said: "In the same way that you gave Me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world." John 17:18 (Mes)

Last week we talked about how you need a ministry in the church – You also need a mission in the world.

You need: A ministry to believers and a mission to unbelievers.
A ministry to the Body and a mission to the world.

Two types of Mission:

- Custom mission
- Common mission

"As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you." *John 20:21 (NIV)*

"The most important thing is that I complete my mission, the work that the Lord Jesus gave me - to tell people the Good News about God's grace." *Acts 20:24 (NCV)*

MY 5th PURPOSE IS TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS - "Evangelism"

"You will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." *Acts 1:8 (NIV)*

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Where does this verse say to go?

- "Jerusalem" = the people closest to me
- "Judea/Samaria" = people near but different from me
- "Ends of the earth" = everybody else!

This is not Mission Impossible, but Mission inevitable.

"This was God's plan for all of history which He carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord."
Eph. 3:11 (GW)

HOW DO I COMPLETE MY MISSION?

1. I MUST SHARE WITH THOSE IN MY WORLD.

"Go back home and tell people how much God has done for you.' So the man went all over town telling how much Jesus had done for him." *Luke 8:39 (NCV)*

Jesus says the same thing to you – Your mission starts in your own community.

WHY DON'T WE DO THIS?

- We believe the myth that people aren't interested in spiritual issues.

George Gallup Poll:

65 million Americans have no church home

34 million said they would attend if somebody would just invite them.

Teens were more interested in talking about God than sex, drugs, or music.

"Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you." *1 Peter 3:15 (TEV)*

The only reason your heart is still beating after you come to Christ is because God wants you to share it with people who haven't heard.

"...God does not want anyone to be lost, but He wants all people to change their hearts and lives!" *2 Peter 3:9 (NCV)*

The church that doesn't want to grow and reach out is basically saying to the world you can go to hell!

We ought to be saying – Go to heaven!

2. I MUST DARE TO REACH BEYOND MY WORLD.

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Love demands I move beyond my comfort zone to people with different background, education, language, and economics.

“Whatever a person is like, I try to find common ground with him so that he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him.” *1 Cor. 9:22b (LB)*

*You can't spell God without GO
You can't spell Good News without GO
You can't spell Gospel without GO*

“Stoop down and reach out to those who are oppressed. Share their burdens, and so complete Christ's law.” *Gal. 6:2 (Msg)*

“Real religion, the kind that passes muster before God the Father, is this: Reach out to the homeless and loveless in their plight...” *James 1:27 (Msg)*

“I was hungry, and you fed Me. I was thirsty, and you gave Me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited Me into your home. I was naked, and you gave Me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for Me. I was in prison, and you visited Me.” *Mt. 25:35-36 (NLT)*

Jesus replied, “Let me assure you that no one has ever given up anything... for love of Me and to tell others the Good News, who won't be given back, a hundred times over...” *Mark 10:29 (LB)*

3. I MUST CARE ABOUT THE WHOLE WORLD.

Jesus said to His followers, “Go everywhere in the world, and tell the Good News to everyone.” *Mark 16:15 (NCV)*

“If you insist on saving your life, you will lose it. Only those who throw away their lives for My sake and for the sake of the Good News will ever know what it means to really live.” *Mark 8:35 (LB)*

Video presentation

Question: Is anybody going to be in heaven because of you?

This year 75,000 people in Tennessee will die in the next 365 days. Most of them will go into eternity without Jesus Christ.

In the next 365 days 2.4 million Americans will die.

In the next 365 days 54 million people in the world will die.

“David served God's purposes in his own time...” *Acts 13:36a (TEV)*

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YOU HAVE FOUR POSSIBLE RESOPNSES

- You can say like Moses – “Who me?”
- You can say like Jonah – “Not me.”
- You can say like Habakkuk – “Why me?”
- You can say like Isaiah – “Send me.”

“Send us around the world with the news of Your saving power and Your eternal plan for all mankind.” Ps. 67:2 (LB)