

Why are We Here?
#1 Recalibrating our lives for purpose
1 John 2:15-17

Introduction: Every creation that humankind has come up with, finds it's beginning in purpose. Even the simplest of inventions were made because they served a purpose. We are creative because we are created in the image of our Creator God, and so it stands to reason that He created us with a unique purpose, yet one that reflects his nature and character. While we are all different, we all have a common purpose in Christ. Sadly, most people live lives without knowing their purpose, so we need to clear away the things that can so easily rob us of what God has created us to do.

Ice Breaker: What have you "created" and why (purpose)? It could be a tool, a cake, a letter or email. Something that you have come up with yourself.

Questions to Consider: *(You don't have to answer all of them!!)*

1. A Psalmist writes: "Remember my sorrow and how short life is. Did you create men and women for nothing but this?" Psalm 89:47. Most people have felt the futility of life being too short & without purpose. It's a universal experience. What dominates your thoughts and feelings regarding your life's purpose?
2. The great prophet Isaiah says: "I replied, "But my work seems so useless! I have spent my strength for **nothing** and to **no purpose**. Yet I leave it all in the LORD's hand; I will trust God for my reward."" (Isaiah 49:4 NLT). Do you sometimes feel like that? How does the second half of this verse transform your thinking?
3. Compare John 3:16 with 1 John 2: 15a. Same author (John – Jesus' disciple & best mate). What do you think is the difference between the two statements?
4. The three areas of temptation from the world include: our cravings, lust of the eyes, boasting of what we have and do. These three are universal temptations that war against our flesh, soul and mind. Where is your greatest struggle? What do you need prayer for now?
5. How might these verses help you in the struggle to know God's purpose? Galatians 6:14; Romans 8:5-8; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 10:13, 31.
6. Where does love for the world compete with love for God in your life?
7. Quote: The reason why the church of God at this present moment has so little influence over the world is because the world has so much influence over the church." (Spurgeon). Talk about how this fleshes out in the church daily.

Pray for each other for strength to combat the false values of the world that war against your soul, and commit yourself to God in a fresh way. Pray that what dominates your life is love for the Father and not love for the world.