

SEP. 11: ONE GREAT PURPOSE

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Focal Passage: Psalm 33:6-9, 13-15;

Colossians 1:15-17

One of the things I do not love to do is put things together for my children. I love getting things they need and sometimes want. I also love helping them learn to use the things in question, but I do not love the phrase "Some assembly required." And the reason I do not love it is the instructions. Invariably I am left with a piece of plastic, rubber or frame and have no idea where it goes or its intended purpose.

Everything has a purpose and every person has a purpose. The general purpose of everyone is to know God and have a relationship with Him. But, I believe God also has a specific purpose and mission for your life and mine. God spoke to Jeremiah the prophet telling him that his purpose was determined while in his mother's womb. How can that be? Because God knows us. Isaiah says it this way, "I have called you by name; you are Mine." So, God did not simply create the universe, intentionally design this planet for life, put us in it, and then leave us to live life with no meaning or direction. He has an intended purpose for us.

Likewise, He intends to give us the ability and resources needed to live out that purpose. Isaiah tells us that He redeems us, loves us, and that we are precious in His sight. God did not only tell us He loved us, but He went to great lengths to show His love for us by sending His son Jesus Christ to pay the ransom for your sins and mine.

Regarding Israel, they too were shown the love of God and the redemption of God as a pagan emperor named Cyrus allowed a remnant to return to the land of promise. Eventually, Ezra the scribe and Nehemiah the cupbearer would also return to reestablish temple worship and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

God loves His people and His desire is that we might know Him and bring glory to His name. The Bible says before you were even born every day of your life was recorded ... laid out before a single day had passed (Psalm 139:16).

God has personally designed your life to conform to His perfect will, and what is His perfect will for your life? Well, that is the fun part. You have the amazing opportunity to discover it through your personal relationship with God. Knowing God created you and loves you gives your life meaning and purpose. Listen for His voice and let the Holy Spirit be your guide in discovering who you are in Christ.