

# Purpose Driven Life, XII

## *Five Vital Signs (Chpts 39-40)*

May 30, 2004

### FIVE FINAL QUESTIONS

- Twelve parts later – we’ve come to the end of our series.

During the course of this series we have examined five essential purposes that everyone is created for, and called to: worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and mission.

One day every believer who has embraced Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior will still stand before God and give an account concerning these five areas of responsibility; and we’ll answer five final questions:

1. Did you adore me above all else?
2. Did you build relationships with my family?
3. Did you cultivate my character?
4. Did you care for others in my name?
5. Did you share my truth and grace?

If I had to answer “No,” it wouldn’t be a matter of salvation; it wouldn’t be a matter of taking God by surprise – He knows us. It would be the numbing realization (before my creator) that I’d failed to acknowledge and appreciate the purpose of my creation.

- In that moment I’d give anything to be able to say: Yes.

- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Did you adore ...     | Yes, <i>you</i> were my God!  |
| 2. Did you build ...     | Uh-huh!                       |
| 3. Did you cultivate ... | Yeah, I became more like you. |
| 4. Did you care ...      | Mm-hmm, I did.                |
| 5. Did you share ...     | [Nodding]                     |

**[Jesus said:]** The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. “Master,” he said, “you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.” His master replied, “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!” – Matthew 25:20-21 NIV

But, in order to have five rewarding answers *then*, we need to make sure we’ve answered five vital questions *now*.

## FIVE VITAL QUESTIONS

1. What will be the center of my life? (Worship)

If we fail to devote ourselves to God we'll find a substitute: career, sports, hobbies, money, even family can replace Him.

Q: It's not: Will I worship something; it's: What *am* I worshipping?

2. What will be the community of my life? (Fellowship)

The fruit of God's Spirit are not learned in isolation. We need other believers to encourage, confront, and support us.

Q: Who have I chosen to influence and be influenced by?

3. What will be the character of my life? (Discipleship)

There are only two things we can take to Heaven, and Christ-like character is one of them.

Q: The question is: Am I progressively developing Godly habits?

4. What will be the contribution of my life? (Ministry)

Jesus teaches us that true greatness is *not* measured by how many people serve you, but by how many people you serve.

Q: Am I using my experiences and abilities to help others?

5. What will be the communication of my life? (Mission)

There are only two things we can take into Heaven, and people are the other one.

Q: The question is: Who am I attempting to take with me?

## SPIRITUAL PHYSICAL

- God places a high value on the habit of self-evaluation.

At least five times in Scripture we're told to give ourselves a "spiritual check-up".

Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you — unless, of course, you fail the test? And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test. — 2 Corinthians 13:5-6 NIV

We're going to spend the rest of our time testing ourselves. I've prepared a kind of spiritual physical.

[Hand out the "Spiritual Physical"]

This will help us analyze the five vital areas of purpose, to see just how fit (or feeble) we are. After I read each sentence you'll circle an assessment number.

- "Five" means you are strong and healthy in that category.
- "One" means you're "flat-lining" that particular subject.

### **The Center of My Life**

I have a well developed plan and a process for deepening my intimacy with God.	1	2	3	4	5
I praise and worship the Lord, physically and emotionally, publicly and privately.	1	2	3	4	5
I give my time, talents, and treasure consistently, proportionally, and sacrificially.	1	2	3	4	5

Add up your worship total: \_\_\_\_\_

### **The Community of My Life**

I am consistent in my church attendance and I participate in small group settings.	1	2	3	4	5
I intentionally cultivate relationships with Christian friends and spiritual mentors.	1	2	3	4	5
I approach, confront, and resolve conflicts in a loving, gracious, Biblical manner.	1	2	3	4	5

Add up your fellowship total: \_\_\_\_\_

### **The Character of My Life**

I meet regularly with the Lord through His Word, conversation, and meditation.	1	2	3	4	5
I respond to disappointments with faith and concern rather than anxiety and fear.	1	2	3	4	5
I am intentional about learning and applying Biblical truths to my everyday life.	1	2	3	4	5

Add up your discipleship total: \_\_\_\_\_

### **The Contribution of My Life**

I consistently serve and support others through prayer, encouragement, help, etc.	1	2	3	4	5
I am always willing to share my past hurts and failures if it will benefit someone.	1	2	3	4	5
I discover ways to express my unique design by trying on different ministry roles.	1	2	3	4	5

Add up your ministry total: \_\_\_\_\_

### **The Communication of My Life**

I actively pray for and cultivate relationships with unchurched friends and family.	1	2	3	4	5
I share my life experiences with non-Christians - readily, respectfully, and gently.	1	2	3	4	5
I ask my unchurched friends about their spiritual lives, and invite them to church.	1	2	3	4	5

Add up your mission total: \_\_\_\_\_

## HEART MONITOR

- Now look at the heart monitor at the top of the page.
- We're going to transfer our five totals to the graph.

For instance: if you scored an eight in the worship category, you would put a dot on the worship line at the "eight" line.

- Now, repeat that process for fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and mission.

Q: Do you have your dots placed on the graph?

- Now let's connect the dots to the baseline.
- You now have an analysis of your strengths and weaknesses.

## THE PRESCRIPTION

[Hand out prescriptions]

This is your personal prescription, but it still needs to be filled in.

Q: See the five boxes?

They correspond to the five points on your "heart" monitor.

- Check the box if you scored eight or less in that category.

The prescription is to read (or reread) one corresponding chapter per day for seven days.

- The chapters are listed to the far left of each box.

Q: See the "Refill" information on the bottom right corner?

Go ahead and circle the number of times you realistically think that you should go over your prescription chapters this summer.

- Now you can use this to bookmark your chapters.