



## Purpose 1

**Purpose of the Elders Discipleship Group:** To Train and Equip Discipleship Group leaders to lead more effectively.

**Key Theme:** Purpose.

**Key Truth:** To know God and to be made ready as His bride.

After spending 15 weeks looking at Vision and the purpose of being able to see into the unseen spiritual dimension, along with 13 weeks looking at Hearing the prophetic Word of God which creates vision (sight), it is my hope that we have an absolute clarity and conviction of what the primary purpose of what Hearing and Seeing God's Word produces.

The primary purpose of receiving the Word of God through the revelation of the Spirit, is to know God and to know His calling for us - "The Bride has made herself ready."

*Philippians 3:7-11 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.*

*2 Corinthians 11:1-3 I wish that you would bear with me in a little foolishness; but indeed you are bearing with me. For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.*

*Revelation 19:7-10 Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'" And he said to me, "These are true words of God." Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."*

Jesus said to the religious leaders, the Sadducees, that they neither knew the scriptures nor the power of God. The context for this firstly was in relation to there being no human marriage in the resurrection, and also that in God there is no such thing as death. This can appear quite confusing as the Sadducees didn't believe in the resurrection, but all this goes to show us, is that when we try to understand God, His Word and His purposes without the revelation of the Spirit, we too can be and act like a Sadducee.

Are we receiving, and how well do we know, the living prophetic scriptures through revelation that brings us into a true knowledge of God, so in turn has us being made ready as His bride. A bride being made ready is able to walk in the manner of her Groom - 1 John 2:6. How well do we know the power of God that enables us to live this prepared life out and brings to light all this knowledge through revelation.

For far too long the church, God's people, both leaders and followers have defined their purpose by what they are going to do for God, and many still are, rather than who we are to become in God. We have started the journey of purpose without Vision, the ability to see in the unseen realm, and so in turn have created for ourselves a very earthly centred and anchored purpose, based around our works for God, rather than our love for Him and others and who we are to become in Him - His bride.



***Romans 8:28-32 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.***

God has justified us by His blood. He will give us brand new bodies at the resurrection, but I wonder if we know the part that is missing in the salvation process. The part that is missing is our sanctification, also known as our bridal preparation or the bride making herself ready. The process of the church having her soul (mind, will and emotions) completely transformed and renewed by the Spirit of Truth. The bible says God seeks worshippers who worship in Spirit and Truth and those who worship Him must worship in Spirit and Truth.

If you have ever asked what God's primary purpose is for His church and what is the hope of His calling for the church, you now know and can start moving towards this kingdom life if you haven't already. This prophetic declaration will only ever become our living reality through the power of God's Word being revealed within us. Jesus is returning for a mature bride and it will be this mature bride that spends her entire eternity living out this prophetic utterance of Revelation 22:3-4.

***Revelation 22:3-4 There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him; they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads.***

#### **Questions:**

1. Without Vision (sight) we create a man centred purpose, based on works for God. What are our thoughts in relation to this?
2. Why is it the case that many in God's body, including ourselves maybe, are or have defined their purpose by what they are going to do for God, rather than knowing God and who we are to become in God?
3. Would you say you have Revealed knowledge or Cognitive/Informational knowledge, of what God's primary purpose and calling is for His church and why?
4. How has this knowledge of God's primary purpose and calling for His church, radically changed you, the way you now live and empowered you to walk in the manner of Jesus Himself?

**Action point:** What is one thing you may need to put in place from going through this resource?