

## **JULY 2008 Week 2 Teaching:** *Purposed to Please God*

Whether it is healing, success, marriage, or wealth we are after, all of us have a personal need or goal that probably dominates our prayer life. As it relates to our purpose within the will of God, that particular need or goal is of significant importance. If we stay the course, it will provide the platform for the increase of our faith—a faith that will transport us to the next level of spiritual growth and development in Christ Jesus.

One of the things you'll hear me say often is "*people can only take the truth in small doses.*" Colossians 2:10 tells us that we are complete in Christ Jesus. When we were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, (Eph 1:13) we received everything we would possibly need to walk in the fullness of our Lord, but so few of us do. As God patiently waits on us to "*...grow up into him in all things,*" (Eph 4:15) we make baby steps and accept the truth of our power through Christ in small chewable bites.

Jesus said in John 8:32 that the truth brings liberty in every aspect of life and living. The more of it we accept, the better able we are to reach out with the full force of spiritual strength to grab hold of what we desire. There is always solid evidence of our acceptance of the truth and that is it. For us spirit-filled folks, the attainment of our next level blessing coupled with another notch on our spiritual maturity belt are the evidence that our walk in Christ is on point.

The droughts and wilderness experiences of our lives usually occur in what I like to call the "*preparation stage*". It is the span, distance, or gap between our knowledge of the truth and our demonstration of actually walking in it. If you never believe anything else that I say, you can believe this one thing and I'm confident that God will prove it to you. It is this; your greatest desire at this very moment is linked to your purpose within the will of God, and the fact that the desire is unfulfilled is directly tied to some aspect of God's Word that you are not living. You have not put it on in your mind and heart because you either have not heard it, or you have heard it but you do not understand it and/or have refused to believe it.

If you are reading this teaching, you are more than abundantly blessed. You are abundantly blessed because you have vision, the mental faculty to comprehend, and the wherewithal to position yourself to have access to what I've written. We do a gross disservice to God, to ourselves, and to all those who have privy to our witness to convey that we are less than blessed simply because we lack something we desire. We are more than blessed all day,

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everyday. Everything we could possibly want is already in the earth, waiting for us to take possession of it. What we lack is the opportunity to do just that.

We can learn many lessons from the Israelite's wilderness experience. One of those lessons has to do with their readiness to seize the promise land. They were charged with the task to go in and take it. It was their sole responsibility to garner the faith to act on what God had promised. After a great deal of time, they finally mustered the spiritual strength to take possession of what they desired, but they had to get their game straight and recognize the power and authority of God. That is exactly what you and I must do. We too must develop the spiritual strength to reach out and seize what we desire, and we must do it in a way that is pleasing to God.

There is only one way to increase spiritual strength; it is to walk in the truth. There are those who will tell us that if we look deep enough within we will find the truth. We can look all we want, but unless the indwelling Holy Spirit is anchored in our innermost—we will not find the treasure we seek. Our truth is found in the spiritual reality of Jesus Christ.

#### **John 8:29 KJV**

*29 And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.*

If ever there was a man who could have carved out his own philosophy—his own way of thinking about things—it would have been the Christ. He had many opportunities to say whatever he wanted—he was brilliant, but he never did that because he understood that it would have been an exercise in futility. He said in John 8:29 KJV that “...I do always those things that please him.” He understood who he was, whose he was, and what he was purposed to do on earth.

In John 8:50 NLT he said “**And though I have no wish to glorify myself, God wants to glorify me...**” Jesus Christ didn't set out to acquire glory for himself. He wanted to glorify God. That is why he was ultimately blessed with a position that is higher than any other in all creation. God set up the system to respond to this kind of light—to this kind of selflessness. That's why the stuff that floats your boat cannot be about self-aggrandizement. It isn't about us. It's about our service to God and our desire to please Him, and only Him. That is what we were designed to do.

#### **Romans 6:1-5 NLT**

*1 So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. 2 For the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you through Christ Jesus from the power of*

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*sin that leads to death. 3The law of Moses could not save us, because of our sinful nature. But God put into effect a different plan to save us. He sent his own Son in a human body like ours, except that ours are sinful. God destroyed sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins. 4He did this so that the requirement of the law would be fully accomplished for us who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.*

*5 Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit.*

Through the indwelling Holy Spirit you and I are purposed to please God. Romans 8:29 NLT says that God knew us in advance and chose us to become sons and daughters, siblings of our big brother, Jesus Christ. Some of us have held to the notion that since we're sons and daughters, we should no longer be looked upon as servants, but service is in our DNA. It's what we do as human beings and there's no way to escape it.

### **Romans 6:15-18 NLT**

*15 So since God's grace has set us free from the law, does this mean we can go on sinning? Of course not! 16 Don't you realize that whatever you choose to obey becomes your master? You can choose sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God and receive his approval. 17 Thank God! Once you were slaves of sin, but now you have obeyed with all your heart the new teaching God has given you. 18 Now you are free from sin, your old master, and you have become slaves to your new master, righteousness.*

Romans 8:30 says that God has given us right standing. He gave us the right to stand before Him with no sense of guilt, sin, or condemnation. In essence, He has given us righteousness and it is our new master. It isn't something we earned. It was a desperately needed gift—a gift that allows us to go over and above what servants would normally do.

We were called to serve God and His people. That is what allows us to build the spiritual character whereby we can ask anything of the Father and expect to receive it. If you haven't demonstrated the faith to fulfill your obligation to God and His people, you cannot summon the faith from within to position yourself to receive what you desire either. That would be out of order, and we all know too well that God is a God of order. We must do things His way, and when our hearts are filled with pure intent to please Him, the reward will be a multitude of opportunities that we are fully prepared to seize.

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## JULY 2008 Week 2 Prayer

Heavenly Father,

*In the precious name of Jesus Christ, I thank You for the honor and privilege to come before You. I do so realizing that this honor was purchased with a price and paid out of Your love for us, Your people. I know that there are parts of Your Word that I may not have heard or maybe I have overlooked them. I pray that You call them to my remembrance or guide my attention to read or hear them. I humbly ask that You prepare my heart and mind to recognize the truth, especially those parts that will help me to rise above my circumstances and become a better Christian. Please help me to develop the spiritual strength to meet my obligations to the faith. Help me, Dear Father, to be pleasing to You. Help me to manage the symptoms of whatever it is that causes me to stray from the path of Your purpose for my life. Cause vehicles of healing and restoration to flow my way and help me to recognize when they do. I thank You for my continued growth and maturity in the spirit, and for letting me know in undeniable ways that I'm on the right track. Thank You for loving me better than I could ever love myself. In the name of Jesus Christ I pray. Amen.*

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**Scriptures link to**  
**[New Living Translation.com](http://www.newlivingtranslation.com)**

### WEEK 2 Scriptures:

**Day 1:**

[Psalm 103:1-5](#)

**Day 2:**

[2 Corinthians 9:8](#)

**Day 3:**

[Deuteronomy 4:9](#)

**Day 4:**

[Jeremiah 6:16](#)

**Day 5:**

[Romans 14:17-19](#)

**Day 6:**

[James 3:16-18](#)

**Day 7:**

[James 1:5-8](#)

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