## **Live for Purpose**

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Date: 15 December 2024 Preacher: David Antwi

[0:00] Hallelujah! Thank you for tuning in to this powerful message by David Entry at Karis Phase 2, our Christ-centred youth services. You can never find Christ outside of the open Word of God.

May Jesus Christ reveal himself to you as you listen. Ephesians 3.10, to the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the Church, the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence by faith of him. Wherefore, I desire that ye faint not at my tribulation for you, which is for your glory. For this cause, I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and in earth is named.

Amen. Of whom the whole family in heaven and in earth is named, that he will grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with mind by his Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith, that he be rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, the length, the depth, the height, and to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God. Here ends the reading of God's holy word. Hallelujah. Last week, we spoke extensively about the wisdom of God, and today, I want to move forward from there. Watch this very carefully. It says that God had an intention and God had a purpose. His purpose and his intent. Everything God was doing is moving towards an objective. So, he allowed Stephen to die because he wanted the church to spread. So, everything God does, he doesn't do things because somebody's in need. He does things because he has a plan. He never does anything according to your wish.

Even when he's answering prayers, he doesn't answer prayer because someone is in need of, someone is in problems. God is not that kind of Superman who doesn't have, a Spider-Man who doesn't have anything, and when somebody's in a problem, he's just trying to do something about it. No, he has a plan. He has a plan. That's why if you want God to answer your prayers, find what his plan is, and pray alongside his plan. When you bring your prayer request, your prayer topic, you sync it with God's plan. You will see answers.

So, Hannah realized that she needed a son, but God needed a prophet for his agenda. So, he said, oh, oh, that's a good one. No problem. God, if you give me a son, I'll give him to you for a prophet. God said, did you say that?

[ 3:28 ] Angels, everybody heard it. Okay. Next year by now, you are going to have a child. Going to have a child because her desire for a child married God's purpose for a prophet.

In Ephesians chapter one, I think verse 11 or so, it talks about God's purpose there. It said, in whom we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of God, who works all things after the counsel, he doesn't need your advice. He doesn't need any government's advice. He doesn't need popular opinion to make up his mind what he's going to do. Neither does he need your prayer to determine what he wants to do. When God wants to do something on earth, he will just inspire somebody's heart.

Ecclesiastes three, he said, for he has put eternity in our hearts. He has a way of inspiring somebody's heart to desire what he wants to do without the person's will being violated.

So God will not violate your will for you to do something for him. That's why if you don't want to fornicate, you have to pray, God, help me not to fornicate. I'm putting systems not to fornicate.

But if you don't pray about it, it might not be in line with what God can do. So when you pray about it, that means that your prayer is not making God do something, but his purpose has inspired your heart to pray for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to do of his good pleasure. So for you to be able to please in Philippians chapter 2 verse 13, for you to be able to please him, he has to work it in your heart. He is the one who must work in you.

[5:22] He does two things. Their willing and their doing are all from God, else you can't do anything to please him. Because no human being has it in himself naturally to be able to know what to do to please God.

So God works according to his purpose. He said, who has called us, oh, Ephesians 1, 11 again, who has been predestinated according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his own will.

Wow, that's so nice. He works all things according to the counsel. His will is what advises him. The counsel of his will. His will is what counsels him. That tells him God this time it's time to do this.

His will. And everything is doing. Look at Romans chapter 8 verse 28. It said, for all things work together. Watch this. People just quote it, but they missed something there. A core point. There's a purpose of God there.

Without the purpose of God and your love for God, things will not work together for you. He said, for all things work together, all things work together for good to those who love God.

One. And to those who are called according to God's purpose, not your feelings. You cannot be effective in life if you are feeling driven.

No achiever lives based on feelings. The reason why certain people from certain backgrounds never do well is because right from onset, they are raised to be feeling determined.

Their decisions are based on, actually, I don't, how can you go to a, I don't want to go to a, because I'm not happy. I don't, I'm not happy at work. So you stop working. You are a baby boy. No.

You left that job because I don't like my supervisor. No. You left uni because you don't like your lecture. You can't be.

Johnny said, I'm not happy. Johnny, what's wrong? I'm sad. I'm sad. That's how they raise fools. I'm sad. Johnny is not happy. I'm sad. Johnny, will you eat it now?

[7:58] I don't want to eat it. I'm sad. I'm sad. I don't, I'm not happy. I'm sad. Who told you you do things based on happiness?

Purpose should be your motivation, not happiness. And when you live to fulfill purpose, there's no fulfillment that comes closer to fulfillment of purpose.

It's sweet. It's, it's, it's, it's, when a task is accomplished, it's sweet to the soul. Accomplishment of tasks.

It's sweet to the soul. Can you imagine, you struggle, go through difficult time and you finish writing on the exam and you get A-stars? Ah. Ah.

you now feel like even doing more, we're so winning. Yes. Desire accomplished is sweet to their soul. But it is an abomination to fools to depart from evil.

[9:03] This thing is not helping you by saying, I enjoy it, I like it, I like him, you know, I like that guy so much, I don't know, foolish girl. Move on from there, you know, stop telling me that nonsense.

Most of the movies we watch is all geared towards happiness, happiness, feelings, feelings, feelings, feelings. Always feeling. And this generation is motivated by feelings.

Motivated by feelings. Why did you leave that department? Because I wasn't feeling, I wasn't feeling right, I wasn't feeling, look at you. Oh, it's not for me.

You are telling me a department is not for you. Are you getting something?

Yes. Don't, your feelings are as unstable as the British weather. Wow. Especially the Scottish one. Oh, yeah. British weather, if you're going out, that's why weather forecast becomes necessary.

[10:08] Because you can't look at the weather and think it to be good. It can flip on you very, so quickly. A few minutes, it will really disappoint you.

Yes. The weather, it's very unreliable. Your feelings are even more unreliable than the weather. It takes one information, just one piece of information, and your whole feeling is down.

You were laughing just now. So, if you want your major decisions in life to be based on your feelings, you are a baby, you are not growing, that's very pediatric.

Infantile approach to life. When major decisions of your life are based on feelings, you can't choose where you are relocating to based on how you feel.

You can't choose what course you are reading based on the way I felt. And you can't choose who you want to become the father or the mother of your children based on how you feel.

[11:17] Because it changes very quickly, romance. Romantic feelings. So, there's no way in the Bible God has commanded anyone to have romantic feelings for somebody. When he says that husbands, love your wife.

It's not only a romantic love. Because you can't command romantic love. You can't command it. Husbands, love your wife. No, that's not romance. Agape love can be commanded.

It's an intentional love. You've set up your mind that this is the one I will love in spite of everything. While romance is just feelings. Unfortunately, as you grew up, Hollywood has modeled to you what kind of man is she wants?

What kind of woman is she wants? So, you say imbecile things like he's my type of man. Did you know what you're talking about? Your type? Is that thing compatible with your destiny?

Purpose makes you make decisions with destiny in mind. That's right. Before I made up my mind that I was going for past that, I had to do a lot of checks. What kind of check? Is such a person compatible with the destiny where I'm going?

[12:27] I don't care about how you look because looks can be bought and looks can fade. Flowers are falling. Yes. Purpose. That purpose lead you.

The courses you take in university, let it be driven by purpose. The reason why you're going to the library is because there's purpose. It's not happiness. Most destinies are being crushed by that small screen in your hands.

Most destinies. Look at the kind of things you are watching. Why are you hiding it? Your life is out of control and you don't want to be accountable to anybody and yet you can't handle it.

Arrogance has made you feel you can handle your life and you are sinking like a lead on the water. Sinking. Destiny is sinking. And later on, everybody will feel sorry for you and there's nothing anyone can do.

Because we have all gone and left you. People are growing and people are taking hold of destiny. Purpose. God, even God, he does everything based on purpose.

You want to do everything based on feelings. Efficient, 3 living back. Wow. Are you getting something? Yes. Someone shout purpose.

Purpose. Since my youth, I'm still a youth, so since, since my teenage years, I think my opportunity was, I got access to wise preachers.

I got born again early. See, when you get born again on time, it helps. You get, you're exposed to good teaching. teaching. It's not only teaching that is telling you how Jesus died on the cross, but it tells you how the cross can also be contextualized in your daily living.

How to choose a wife. How to choose a husband. How to talk to a wife. How to court. How not to date. How to relate to your parents.

How to prepare yourself for your destiny. All these things. So, and I gave myself to it. So, I wasn't the type of Christian who is listening to preaching but doesn't do anything with it.

[14:49] I listen and do. I listen and do. And it has landed me. So, I didn't sleep and one day I woke up and God said, I've called you. And I'm preaching. Please, no. Many years.

Over 30 years. Of consistent behavior based on what I, I'm taught, I'm discipled, I'm taught and seen in scripture and I begin to follow it.

I follow it. It guides it. I was my guide when it got to choosing a wife. Choosing a wife. Yes. Because as you grow, your taste also changes.

I don't know if you have noticed that. Yeah. Yeah. You know, there was a time you used to really like watermelons. No, you don't like it.

You like oranges. Taste changes though. But destiny is one. Am I talking to somebody at all?

[15:49] And some of you, you are building your life based on friends. There's no classic definition of a fool like you. You are building your destiny based on friends who don't know where they are going.

They say, let's jump. They begin to jump. Let's go here. You are going. You don't have, it's like you get to the airport and you meet friends and where are we going and where are you going? They say, oh, we are just going to the Utef if you didn't follow them.

You don't know what flight they are on. You don't know the time of their flight. You don't know that. You are just following them and forget about you are also on a mission. Don't follow.

So, I choose never to follow friends. No, no, no. I make friends with good people and we can, we can now pursue destiny together but I won't follow you.

I won't follow friends because friends might not, my friends will not be smarter enough for my destiny. So, I look for a mentor else I'll be tormented.

[17:01] Purpose. Purpose. When you don't know the purpose of a thing you are, abuse is inevitable. Purpose.

Purpose. You are in uni for a purpose not to make friends. Purpose. Purpose. Don't, why are you in uni and following friends to do things that are contrary to your reason for being in uni?

A classic definition of a... Let's go back to the text. Ephesians chapter 3 verse 11.

Bible says that according to the eternal purpose, alright, let's pick it from Ephesians 10, to the intent that, to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places according to the eternal purpose.

So, God's eternal purpose because he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. So, God has accomplished an eternal purpose in Christ and it's, that is the platform for which the church is going to be a manifestation of God's wisdom.

[18:24] So, it's not some isolated organization, an isolated group of people to do their own thing and God is with them. No, it's on the premise of God's eternal purpose which he has accomplished through Christ.

Now, then from that, that becomes the platform for the raising of the church to demonstrate God's wisdom. There cannot be an existence of a church outside of Christ. So, outside of Christ, the church loses its value, the church loses its purpose, the church loses its relevance outside of Christ.

Ah, now, when you read the scriptures you come across in whom, in him, through him, he's talking about Christ most of the time, right, especially the New Testament.

So, in whom, who is he talking about? Christ. So, in Christ we have boldness and access. How? With confidence through faith in him.

when you are actually in Christ, it gives you a certain level of audacity. Audacity.

Yeah, that's me, I'm in a plane crash, how can I be? It cannot happen because there's too much purpose. When you are working in your purpose, you can't die prematurely.

Purpose protects you. Purpose defends you. Purpose covers you. Purpose will shield you. But, why was I so confident?

Not just because of mere purpose, but I was so confident because I know some things. And I know, if I purpose it this way, he said that, I know in whom I believe.

Second Timothy chapter 1 verse 12. I know in whom I believe. Second Timothy 1 verse 12. And I am persuaded. He said, I am not ashamed for I know in whom I believe.

And I am persuaded that he's able. I have this deep-seated, unshakable conviction. Now he says, in Christ, we have boldness and access.

[ 20 : 45 ] Ah, not only boldness, boldness, but we also actually have access. You remember God access? Ephesians chapter 2 verse 18. We have access by the Spirit.

We have access. I've got access. In Christ, I've got access. Through him, we both have access by one Spirit. I've got access. But it's not only access, but boldness.

Boldness. Yesterday, after the workers' meeting, as I was starting my car, I looked behind me, and the girls are sitting there already. One of my daughters, she can just sit in the car and put her leg across on the front, you know, in between the driver, the armrest.

She'll put her leg there, and then she's just on her. Can we board it? If you come into my car, you can't sit here. That's the difference between boldness and someone who just have access.

I can give you access, but you don't be bold inside her. You just feel. He said, in Christ, we have boldness and access.

[22:00] Yes. Hebrews chapter 4 verse 16. Let us come bold. Hebrews chapter 10 verse 19.

He said, Hebrews chapter 10 verse 19, he says that, therefore brethren, have him boldness. Boldness. Where does it come from? In him. The reason why I talk the way I talk is because of where I'm coming from.

When you have been authorized to be partaker, authorized to be a vessel, authorized to be an agent, and authorized to be a minister of the new covenant.

It comes with audacity that you can look in the face of a demonic situation and address your command, you've become boldness.

Paul was speaking with boldness. He says that he has made us able ministers. 2 Timothy chapter 3 verse 5 and 6. He has made us not to think ourselves, who has made us, that's verse 5, not to think of ourselves, not that we are sufficient in ourselves, but to think anything of, anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency.

see. That's what gives me the boldness to talk the way I'm talking. Papa, why did you say somebody is a fool? Because I know the person is a fool. I know, I have boldness to tell you, you are a foolish girl when you are just sleeping with guys and you are not concentrating on building your future because they will hurt you.

Boys can be very messless, just like a rabbit in the hands of a lion. It's mean, he's hungry. If you want something to cuddle, you don't go to a lion for cuddle.

No, he will finish you with one bite. Bonus! He has, look at verse 6, who has made us, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new government, not of the letter.

Letter, kill it, spirit gives life. We are speaking lives into people's situation. Life! So we operate with boldness. Now, let me go back to the text.

In Ephesians chapter 3, it says that to the intent that the principalities of the powers in heavenly place might be made known the manifold wisdom of God might be made to the church.

[ 24:47 ] The next verse, verse 11, says that according to his eternal purpose, which has purpose in Christ, the next verse, it says that in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in him.

We have boldness. Now, what is the boldness about? It's not just boldness to enter into the presence of God because Hebrews say, let us come boldly before the throne of grace.

Okay? Not only boldness to enter the throne of grace, not only access into the throne of grace, but this one is also access into the New Testament program of God so that you are part of it.

So when you have a seat there, it's not like you are not sure do I belong here. No, you are actually part of it. We have access and boldness to be bona fide participants and partakers of the New Testament program of God.

We are part of it. Changing lives and destinies. We have boldness and access into this plan to be part of it.

[ 25:50 ] Quickly, verse 13. It goes into something else. Because of this, therefore, on the grounds of that, therefore, I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is for your glory.

This is another thing that I can spend a whole session talking about. Many people want God to use them, but you don't want to serve anybody. I don't know how it works.

God can use you unless your bleeding is feeding somebody. In Isaiah chapter 53, verse 4, 5, 6, particularly 5 and 6, I think we should just go to that.

Isaiah chapter 53, verse 5, verse 6. Oh, verse 5 says that, what does the verse 4 say?

Let's go to verse 4 first. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. He bear our. So, somebody is rather bearing what is yours.

[27:01] He's carrying our sorrows. Yet, we didn't even bother to think that he's of anything. the next verse. He was wounded for our transgressions.

He was bruised for our, you sinned, but he took the heat for it. Jesus was bruised, let's say, I'm going somewhere, and I think I'll end on this.

Jesus was bruised for our iniquities. He was wounded for our transgressions. And, guess what? Guess what? You want peace? You want peace? He says that, the punishment that should bring your peace was upon him.

In other words, he took, it's like he wants, he wants, maybe to pass your exam with A-stars. And the pain of rigorous studies that go with it, he bought it for you.

And then just, you go and walk into it. He can't do that in exam style. I hope you understand what I'm saying. I'm just giving an analogy.

[28:04] So, Jesus Christ, the chastisement, the punishment, another translation, the punishment for our peace was upon him.

Ah, good God. The punishment, he says that, the chastisement, go back to New King James. Let's stay with New King James. That'll be okay. The punish, the chastisement for our peace was upon him.

And look at this. By his. His what? His what? What are stripes? When they whip him, the stripes, ow!

We'll watch Passion of the Christ again. It's a miniature version of the original thing he went through. God, the healing that was coming to you, stripes that were to be born for that healing.

For your healing. Two, for your healing. That's how the platform of Christianity, somebody's suffering produces your peace. Your progress is on the back of somebody's pain.

[29:12] Your growth in Christ, your understanding of scripture is at the back of somebody's dedication of restless nights, studying and reading and feeding and reading to make you.

So, in Christianity, death is working in people so that life produces. So, in 2 Corinthians chapter 4, wait, wait, wait. 2 Corinthians chapter 4, verse 11 and 12.

We can start from verse 10 maybe to make sense. 2 Corinthians chapter 10, always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus. Why? That the life of Jesus also might be manifested in our bodies.

So, we are dying yet for the life of Christ is now showing through us. Now, look at the next verse. It's going to get interesting. For we who live always, who live, are always delivered to death.

For Jesus is saying, that the life of Christ also may be manifested in our mortal body. because if you want the life, the life of Christ to show, not for you, to manifest through your body, then you must be ready to die.

[30:24] Look at the next verse. Getting interesting. So, then death works in us, but life in you. My pain is generating your gain.

So, it's an oxymoron and it's the same thing for you to think God can use you when you are not ready to sacrifice for anybody. Because the basis, the foundation, the platform of Christianity is sacrifice of one to produce the progress of another.

That's why by his stripes, we, not our stripes, his stripes produce our healing. The chastisement for our peace was upon him. So, now, Paul, on the basis of that, said, Colossians chapter 1, verse 24, and 2 Corinthians chapter 1, verse 6.

Colossians 1, 24, he said, I now rejoice in my suffering. That's how we say it in East Africa. Suffering. I now rejoice in my sufferings for you. I rejoice in my suffering for you and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the affliction of Christ for the sake of his body, which is the church.

I'm bearing some pain in my body. Christ suffered, but he left some for me to also suffer. So, I'm suffering for the production of the body of Christ. and being in the choir, you are not even surviving.

[31:58] Being ashes, abnormal and ashes. I don't like there's too much rehearsal. I don't like the way the leader is giving us instructions. Look at you. It's always about you.

You are the center of gravity of your world. That's why you are no useful in the hands of God. Because he said, I do not count my life too dear to me.

That's the secret. Acts chapter 20 verse 24. He said, yet none of these things move me. Neither do I count my life too dear for myself. Some of you, your life is too dear for you.

So, you can't even be corrected. Pride. Your expression is the manifestation of acute pride.

Some people, they don't look, even pride doesn't look nice on them. If we look at you, what should even make you proud? You. What should you make you proud?

[32:58] Here they use an illustration of Neiman the Syrian who was leprous. And the prophet has given instructions. He said, look, proud and leprous.

Leprosy and pride shouldn't even go together. No. No. No. pride. Second Corinthians chapter 1 verse 6.

Second Corinthians 1. Now, if we are afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation. Can you imagine? How come you want to be a man of God and you are not ready to bear the brand to others?

You want to be a woman of God or you want to be a great pastor's wife and you don't like sacrificing? You don't like you are a killer of ministry. You don't like sacrificing.

Can you imagine Paul? He said, because so, therefore, in verse 13, again, Ephesians chapter 3, verse 13, he says that, therefore, I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulation.

[34:10] case what? For you. I'm suffering for you. But don't, he's rather encouraging you. He's suffering for you. You should be encouraging him. But he's encouraging you that don't lose heart.

For my suffering for you, and he said, my suffering for you is for your glory. It's for your glory. Some of you, some of the things I'm saying can be so strong, it can easily be misrepresented out there.

But I'm so desperate to make sure I can put my neck on the line if it means producing glory in your life. Do you know why I said somebody, you've gone to uni and you are following friends, you are not studying, you are a fool?

Is it not true? But you have to say that. I have to annoy somebody. I'm doing it on purpose, so next time you are doing that, you don't want you call the fool. I have to provoke and annoy you out of that stupid direction.

I did the purpose. That's why I said confidently, now, now, I say these things the way I do and it comes across very strong because our tribulation is bringing you, it's for you.

[ 35:28 ] It says that I ask that do not lose heart at my tribulation for you, which is for your glory. Oh, let them wait when they see your future. They see you operating your greatness.

They see you doing great ministry. They see you in a glorious marriage, glorious family life, glorious professional life, doing so well in life.

You are the best thing that ever happened to your family. Hallelujah! It's for your glory. But you cannot be used to produce somebody's glory if you are not ready to suffer.

Tribulation is the necessary process for suffering or for helping others. Because Satan will target you. Because like you are coming to break somebody out of prison, Satan says you are my target.

There are people I know you can never be a great woman of God. You can never be a great man of God. Because your self-centeredness is repulsive.

[36:32] to ministry. It's antithetical to ministry. Ministry starts with selflessness. Selflessness.

Not once. But selflessness as a lifestyle. Else as you when you gather people you begin to preach to them you are thinking they should give you money.

They should give you envelope. Because you are not selfless. that's why everything you do you might be rewarded for it. Every little thing you do you can't you clap for me.

Don't you see how I'm doing. You are even fasting for people. You have to go and announce to them. I've been fasting seven days for you. You have already received your reward. You are doing it and God doesn't owe you anything.

Selfishness is a blocker of destiny when it comes to doing well in ministry. One of the selfless people you can meet is the man standing in front of you.

[37:38] I'm not blowing my horn. I am genuinely sold out. So sold out to this thing. I don't know a lot of what is going on anyway.

What I know is this. For almost four decades of my life. This is all I do. This is all I've given.

I've abandoned everything and given all to this. No for gain. Jesus said and how I am pressed. It's our scam and I'm pressed.

Something is driving you that a lot of what others complain about you don't notice it. So when I tell you my journey carries how carries in my life journey you might think I've gone through so much but when I went through all those times I didn't feel anything.

I didn't realize I was going through anything. It's just I'm so so sold out and consumed and preoccupied with purpose and destiny that all the details couldn't be bothered.

[38:44] it. So if that thing is not there and I'm getting what you are doing you are looking to be seen. Some of you can't wait for you already taking a picture you want to put on a poster.

Yeah. Revival with brother Mark. you are in a hurry.

You are in a hurry and your name is not hurry. You are in a hurry to be seen, in a hurry to possess, in a hurry to have, in a hurry to look important.

Most people you can tell they don't have a future ministry because of their approach. They are not selfless, selfish. Jesus said the greatest of you must be the servant of you all.

You must always be looking for what to do to serve to make a difference whether anybody knows about you or not. You are looking for. You are looking for opportunity. You are looking for opportunity to serve.

[ 39:55 ] You are looking for opportunity to honor. Opportunity to honor. Look for opportunity to honor. Find opportunity.

How can I honor this, my grace vessel? How can I honor my leader? How can I honor? Look for opportunity. If it means take a stand, it means take a stand for him.

Do that. It's talking about people who have laid their necks down. Romans chapter 16, verse 2 and 3. They laid their necks down for my sake.

Those are people God can use. Great Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ. Verse 4, who raised their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of Galicia, we give thanks.

We owe them thanks. They laid down their necks. Well, did you receive something? Give Jesus' praise. God. Thank you for choosing to listen to this message by David Entry.

[41:01] We hope you were blessed by it. You can connect with David Entry on all relevant social media platforms, including TikTok and threads. There's also many more messages to listen to from David Entry on all relevant streaming platforms and on the Karish Church app.

Be blessed. I think