

Instructions:

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pick 3-5 questions to discuss that pertain to your group's unique style and needs.



Series: Living on Purpose

Trying to discover the purpose of our lives can lead to a lot of questions. Who am I? Why am I here? What does living with purpose look like? Often, the world is all too ready to give us answers – promising that finding the perfect job or achieving the next milestone will make us happy. But in this series, we will embrace the questions as an invitation to discover what it is that God wants to do with the story of our lives.

Message Description:

There is something about being human that makes us long to make meaning with our lives. We want to know that we made a difference by being here, that we impacted someone else by how we lived and how we loved, that our lives mattered. As followers of Jesus Christ, how we pattern our lives matters if we want to live on purpose. A Pharisee named Nicodemus came to Jesus in the cover of night to ask deeper questions about the meaning life. His burning question of faith to Jesus was, how can these things be? How can you perform such signs unless you are from God? How can an old man be born again?

From his conversation with Jesus, we find some of Jesus' core truths of the gospel:

- **Who am I?** You are a child of God, a new creation, and a citizen of the Kingdom of heaven. Therefore, you have a family, a place to belong, and you are not alone. No matter where you are on the journey of faith, seeking the truth or "light" is a lifelong process of discovery.
- **Why am I here?** Because God so loved the world... You were created on purpose for a purpose.

Key Scripture: John 3:1-21

Questions based on this week's teaching:

1. Read the story of Nicodemus in John 3 again. What did you notice differently about his story? How does he model for us a faithful approach to following Jesus?
2. What do you think it means to be born again? When have you heard that phrase before? How did you hear it differently on Sunday?
3. In the John there is a theme of light and darkness, where light refers to a state of belief and darkness refers to a state of unbelief. The judgment of Jesus to Nicodemus (and all who read after him) is that some people prefer the darkness rather than the light. What do you think this means? Where have you seen this preference in your own life or in our world? (*Read John 1:1-14 for more on this theme*)
4. What does it mean to you personally that anyone who comes to believe in Jesus Christ receives the gift of the Holy Spirit? How does this impact our ability to bring light to the darkness?