

Purpose, “Why Me?”

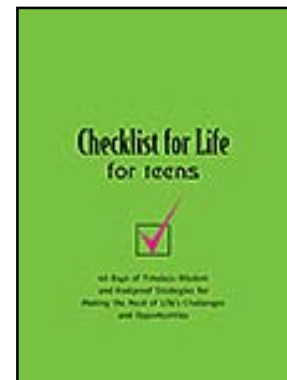
How often do you ask or think, “why me?” A common question or response to any predicament or problem...

The key verse is from the Old Testament, book of Joel; chapter 2 speaks of the *End Times* when the Holy Spirit will be *poured-out* and that people will see visions, dream dreams and prophesy...

Coincidentally, such events or occurrences have been reported among the Muslim population in the Middle East: accounts and recordings of visions and dreams that lead to conversion to Christ in such places as Iraq, Iran, and Pakistan.

In this devotion is the basic desire and objective for each and all: **a purpose in life.**

Using the movie, *It's a Wonderful Life*, this story presents the ways in which one man, George Bailey, helped or influenced the lives of his community. In his present desperation, George saw no benefit in his life and “wished he had never been born.” It was the assigned angel that had to alter reality so that George could observe the past...without his ever existing; and only then was he able to see his purpose – his benefit and contribution to his family and community.



YOU'RE LIFE COUNTS! Don't ever forget it; and don't listen to anyone who tells you differently. God determines your birth, your existence – and wants you to trust in Him as Lord. God has purpose for you – He values your life...

Homework:

Please try to do these:

- Believe God created you for a specific purpose
- Relax and trust God to reveal that purpose...
- Remember that your main reason for living is to love God...to glorify Him
- Keep doing what God has you doing right now...
- Place your future in God's hands
- Pay contention or get connected with church life

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Things to Do:

- ✓ Ask God to reveal to you how you are to serve Him in your life
- ✓ Write a letter to God asking Him why you were born and where you're heading (and include your answers...)
- ✓ Discover more about your purpose by reading: Matthew, chapter 6; Colossians, chapter 3; Hebrews, chapter 10; Philippians, chapter 2; and 1 Peter, chapter 3
- ✓ Discover your spiritual gift(s)...from 1 Corinthians, chapter 12
- ✓ Identify what you enjoy most at church...youth groups...

There is much scripture to support the purpose that God assigns to his people – those who believe in Him as Lord. Here are just a few offered scriptures from *The Message*:

Ephesians, chapter 1

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone. It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free—signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians, chapter 2

God does both the making and saving. **He creates each of us by Christ Jesus** to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.

Philippians, chapter 2

Provide people with a glimpse of good living and of the living God.