

Today's Focus:
Be Intentional About Life, Pt. 1

- *In life we can drift along, letting circumstances determine the direction of our lives or we can become intentional so that our lives are lived as intended.*
- *The word "intentional" means,*
 - *done on purpose*
 - *to be deliberate in what we do*
 - *chooses to make decisions and act on what is important.*
 - *set an intention to achieve a specific outcome or result.*

For this lesson, I want to focus on the first two definitions. Do things with a purpose and choose to be deliberate. Why, because we serve a God of intentionality.

- *God always acts with a purpose, and he is deliberate about it.*
 - **Exodus 14:4 (LB)** - *And once again I will harden Pharaoh's heart and he will chase after you. I have planned this to gain great honor and glory over Pharaoh and all his armies, and the Egyptians shall*

know that I am the Lord.” So they camped where they were told.

- **John 9:3** (NLT) - *It was not because of his sins or his parents’ sins,” Jesus answered. “This happened so the power of God could be seen in him*
- **Philippians 1:12**(NIV) - *Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has served to advance the gospel.*

- *To be intentional is to be “purpose-driven in our actions”.*
- *God doesn’t want us to drift along, letting circumstances determine the direction of our lives.*
- *Question: Are you actively aware of the purpose of your actions while you’re doing them?*
- *God wants us to be intentional about the path we choose in life.*

Proverbs 4:26, (New Living Translation)

Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path.

Proverbs 4:26, (Good News Translation)

Plan carefully what you do, and whatever you do will turn out right.

Ephesians 5:15-17 (Phillips Translation)

15 Live life, then, with a due sense of responsibility, not as [those] who do not know the meaning and purpose of life but as those who do. 16 Make the best use of your time, despite all the difficulties of these days. 17 Don't be vague but firmly grasp what you know to be the will of God.

- If there will be any success in what we do, we must be intentional.*

Why do I say that? Because

- Good intentions do not translate to success.*
- Good Intentions must be converted to Good Actions for Success to occur.*
- To be intentional is to refuse to accept what life offers and make a decision to live on purpose so you can have all that God has planned for you.*

Examples of Intentional People

- 1. David - 1 Samuel 17:29*
- 2. Jabez – 1 Chronicles 4:9*
- 3. Jesus – John 5:19-20*
- 4. Paul – Philippians 3:13 (Acts 16)*

- Achievement is not accidental. It is always planned for.*
- You must lead your life, or else life will lead you.*

Areas we need to be Intentional

Faith, Family, Finances, Health, Relationships, Career,
Time

Conclusion

The story of the tortoise and the hare.

Growth Group Discussion

For the Week of March 17, 2024

LOOKING BACK

1. *Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?*

LOOKING AHEAD

2. *Looking back, would you say you live your life on purpose? Are you intentional about what you do? Share your experiences.*

DIGGING DEEPER

3. *Discuss the intentionality of God in all He does. Look for examples and discuss them.*
4. *Search the scriptures about how intentional Jesus was in all he did.*
5. *How can we be intentional about our personal growth – health-wise, spiritually, etc.?*

APPLYING THE LESSON TO MY LIFE

6. *Knowing what you know now, how can you be intentional daily?*

PRAYER TIME

7. *Ask God to reveal to you, areas where you need to be intentional!*