**Reorienting Our Lives to God’s Purpose Through the Gospel of John**

1. God’s Mission
   1. In Creation

*God’s purpose in creation was to display His glory as He dwelt with a holy people in unhindered fellowship.*

* 1. In the Covenants
     1. The Mosaic Covenant (Ex. 29:45; Lev. 26:12)
     2. The New Covenant (Jer. 31:31-34; Ezek. 11:19-20; 36:25-28; Rev. 21:1-3)

1. Christ’s Work and Accomplishment of God’s Mission (cf. Jn. 1:14)
   1. Through the New Birth
      1. Man’s main problem: Defilement from the guilt of sin and slavery to the power of sin (a repulsive dwelling place for God).
      2. The remedy of the New Birth (John 3:3, 5)
         1. Water – Cleansing from the guilt of sin
         2. Spirit – The gift of the Holy Spirit to transform hearts and deliver from the power of sin.
      3. The New Birth is the creation of a new transformed humanity, the beginning of God’s new creation (see 1 Jn. 2:29; 3:8-9; 5:1-4)
   2. Through the Creation of a New Temple
      1. The new temple is the redeemed people of God who possess His Spirit (John 4:21-24)
      2. The Holy Spirit transforms this people into a suitable dwelling place for God (John 7:37-39; Ezek. 47:1, 12; Eph. 2:19-22; 3:14-21)
   3. Through being a Life-Giving Vine which Nourishes Abiding Disciples (John 15:4-5)
      1. Any fruit that we will bear in our Christian life is the result of Christ’s life in us (cf. John 15:11).
      2. The fruitfulness of His people is mandatory.
      3. Christ’s life abides in believers as believers abide in His love and His work by dependent faith (e.g. Gal. 2:20)!
      4. It is as we abide in Him, He in us, and bear much fruit that we are experiencing the goal of God’s covenant and His mission.

**Implications:**

1. Sanctification is not icing on the cake; it is the goal of our salvation.
2. Discipleship in the church is essential (cf. Eph. 4:15-16; Titus 2:1-10)
3. How we think about our marriages and families is transformed; our focus is shifted away from our selfish pursuits and preferences to the goal of becoming a holy temple for the Father, the Son, and the Spirit together with all the saints.

A Closing Prayer – Eph. 3:14-21

14 For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father,

15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,

16 that He would grant you,

according to the riches of His glory,

to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man;

**17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;**

and that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

18 may be able

to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,

19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge,

**so that you may be filled up to all the fulness of God.**

20 Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,

21 to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.