

A 90-DAY DEVOTIONAL

A  
*Woman*  
OF  
PURPOSE  
AND  
POWER

DR. MYLES MUNROE

— DAY 1 —

## **Do You Know Where You're Headed?**

*"In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps." —Proverbs 16:9*

I was driving along an undeveloped street near my home one day when I saw a large sign with a beautifully painted picture of a building. The sign said, Coming Soon. I sensed the Holy Spirit saying to me, "Did you see that?" I asked, "See what?" He said, "Did you see the finish?" I came back around to take another look at the painting, and the Holy Spirit continued, "If you were to see the men working on that project, digging up all the mud and muck, making big holes, and if you were to ask them what they were doing, they would say, 'We are building that.' They could tell you exactly where they were headed." I have never forgotten that lesson.

I have a question for you: Is your life similar to that? If someone were to ask you where you're going, could you answer that you're headed somewhere? Could you specify where? Are you so clear about your dream that you could paint a picture of it?

If you know where you're going, then when someone doesn't understand the reason for "the mud, the muck, the water, and the hole," it doesn't matter. Everything might look in disarray, but you know it is part of the process. And when you're in the midst of the process, your life might not seem like it's becoming anything. But take careful note: there's a painting of you. God has painted it for you in His Word. Anytime you get bogged down, every time you get discouraged, you can look at that painting.

We may be able to see the outcome of God's purposes for our lives twenty years into the future—or only one day ahead. Yet if we are living in God's plans for us, we have found the key to our existence.

Dear Father,

You are the Creator, the Maker of all things—including me. You have a purpose for my creation beyond anything I can easily understand. Help me to keep my eyes upon You and Your Word as You reveal my purpose on this earth. In Jesus's name, amen.

\*\*\*

*Thought:* If someone were to ask you where you're going in life, what would you answer?

*Readings:* Proverbs 16:1–20; Matthew 6:1–16

— DAY 2 —

### **Seeking Identity**

*"We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us." —1 Corinthians 2:12*

There is a tremendous pull by our culture for women to seek identity in all the wrong places. A woman's true identity is not in her intelligence, her appearance, her wealth, her job, others' opinions, or even her husband and children.

If you don't understand yourself, you don't yet possess yourself. That is why people who don't know who they are imitate other people and become someone other than who they were created to be. If you don't know what you were born to be and do, then you become a victim of other people's opinions. Understanding who made you and who you are is crucial so that others do not take possession of your life. When you have understanding, you know what to do with your life.

A woman first needs to find her identity in who she is in Christ—God's beloved child. It is only as she does this that she can be fulfilled and carry out His plans for her. Regardless of what culture and society may say to the contrary, the highest worth and dignity were given to women by God

in creation. When a woman submits to God, Christ will work in her and through her by His Spirit. In this way, she will be enabled to accomplish all the purposes He has for her—but in His strength, not her own.

You may be missing out in regard to fulfilling the specific purposes for which you were created. God is saying to you, “I want you to stop trying to be like someone else and be who you are.” The apostle Paul said, *“Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ”* (1 Corinthians 11:1). In other words, “When I look like Christ, imitate me.” The only thing we are to imitate of what we see in other people is the life of Christ.

God has special plans for you, if you will seek to become who He created you to be. He has given you your personality and gifts for a specific reason. *“For we are God’s handiwork created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do”* (Ephesians 2:10).

\*\*\*

*Thought:* God made you unique because of the purpose He had in mind for you.

Readings: Psalm 139:13–18; Galatians 2:20

— DAY 3 —

### **Understanding Your Purpose**

*“Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”*

—Matthew 11:29

The great challenge of life is understanding life. When life throws us a curveball, we often just play games and fake it. Many times, we have to guess and then wonder endlessly if our guesses will work.

What we lack is understanding. David, the great king of Israel, made an observation regarding this very issue. By divine inspiration, he spoke of the moral and social chaos in his community and described the root cause of humanity's confusion, frustration, and self-destruction: "[They] *know nothing, they understand nothing. They walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken*" (Psalm 82:5).

This text declares that the reason why the people of the earth are so confused and filled with problems is not because there are no answers but because we don't understand our Creator. We don't know His principles, His purpose, His nature, or His precepts.

The greatest enemy of mankind is *ignorance of self*. Nothing is more frustrating than not knowing who you are or what to do with what you have. All of humanity's problems are a result of this major dilemma. Essentially, the dilemma is that we lack understanding. Without understanding, life is an experiment, and frustration is the reward.

But learning God's ways will transform your spirit, your mind, and your outlook. When you present yourself to God and learn from Him, you will begin to understand His purpose. "*The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple*" (Psalm 19:7).

The greatest way for you to find purpose is to yield your life to the Manufacturer. You shouldn't come to God because it's the religious thing to do. You shouldn't come to God because "everybody" is doing it. You shouldn't come to God because it's good to be a part of the church. You should come to God because you want to find out how not to waste your life. No one knows you like the One who made you. That's the bottom line.

We are so special to God that He sent His only Son to die for us. There must be something unique about each one of us for God to want us to receive salvation so that we can fulfill the purpose for which He gave us life. We need to seek Him earnestly in order to discover that purpose.

*“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart”*  
(Jeremiah 29:13).

\*\*\*

*Thought:* The greatest way for you to find purpose is to yield your life to the Manufacturer.

Readings: Psalm 19; Matthew 11:25–28

— DAY 4 —

### **Seven Principles of Purpose**

*“[God] works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.” —Ephesians 1:11*

The source of so many of our problems in this world, including the misunderstanding and mistreatment of women, is that we have lost our understanding of what it means to be human as God created us. We have lost our sense of purpose. I am convinced that, in every country in the world, both women and men are suffering from this ignorance of purpose. The best thing for us to do is to discover and live in the original plan of the One who created humanity. Only then will we learn the inherent nature and rights of women and men, so that both female and male can live in freedom and fulfillment.

The following seven principles of purpose will help us to understand God’s original intent for us in creation.

1. God is a God of purpose.
2. God created everything with a purpose.
3. Not every purpose is known to us because we have lost our understanding of God’s original intent for us.
4. Where purpose is not known, abuse is inevitable.

5. To discover the purpose of something, never ask the creation; ask the creator.
6. We find our purpose only in the mind of our Maker.
7. God's purpose is the key to our fulfillment.

God is a purposeful Being. He purposes, He plans, and then He carries out His plans. God always knew what He wanted to create before He made it; similarly, He always knows what He wants to carry out before He accomplishes it.

This theme is found throughout the Bible, which we can consider God's handbook, or manual, for our lives. Here are various expressions of His purposeful nature:

*And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. (Genesis 1:3)*

*The plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations. (Psalm 33:11)*

*The Lord Almighty has sworn, "Surely, as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will happen." (Isaiah 14:24)*

*As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:10–11)*

*God...has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace.*

*This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.  
(2 Timothy 1:8–9)*

We have been created purposefully by God. Only when we fully understand this concept will we see how important it is for our well-being that we discover God's intent for us.

\*\*\*

*Thought:* God is a God of purpose.

*Readings:* Meditate on the above passages from the Old and New Testaments.

— DAY 5 —

### **God Will Fulfill His Purposes**

*“The plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.” —Psalm 33:11*

God is purposeful, and He always carries out His purposes. Let's review some Scripture verses from Isaiah and Hebrews that illustrate a vital aspect of God's purposeful nature.

*The Lord Almighty has sworn, “Surely, as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will happen.” (Isaiah 14:24)*

The first part of this verse states that God has sworn an oath. Now, when people swear an oath, they have to find something higher than themselves by which to swear. As we read in Hebrews 6:16, *“People swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument.”* We usually swear by the Bible or by some great institution. But when God swears an oath, there is no one above Him. So, He has to swear by Himself.



If you were called to be a witness in court, you would be asked to swear on the Bible, “I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me, God.” If you were to lie, it would be the same as desecrating the integrity of the Bible, and you would destroy your own integrity as well.

When God swears an oath regarding something, He fulfills what He has sworn to do, because He is totally faithful to Himself. God doesn’t want us to have any doubt about this aspect of His nature.

*Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. (Hebrews 6:17)*

We can be assured that God will fulfill His purposes for us as we allow Christ the Redeemer to restore us to Him and to the purposes He has for us.

\*\*\*

*Thought:* God is purposeful and He always carries out His purposes.  
Readings: Psalm 33; Hebrews 6:13–20

— DAY 6 —

### **God Created Everything with a Purpose**

*“Star differs from star in splendor [“glory” nkjv].” —1 Corinthians 15:41*

Purpose is the original intent of a creator in the creation of something. It is what is in the creator’s mind that causes him to fashion his product in a certain manner. In short, purpose motivates the action of creation. This results in precision production.

Everything that God has made in this life has a purpose. One of the essential principles of purpose is that “the purpose of something determines its nature or design.” We can fight against God’s purposes for us, but if we do, we will be unfulfilled and frustrated. He made us the way we are for His purposes and for our benefit.

Since God is a God of purpose, He never created anything hoping that it would turn out to be something viable. He first decided what it was to be, then He made it. He always begins with a finished product in mind.

Consider these questions:

- Why are humans different from animals?
- Why is a bird different from a fish?
- Why is the sun different from the moon?
- Why does one star differ from another star?
- Why are women different from men?

I will answer these questions with this statement: Everything is the way it is because of why it was created, because of its purpose. The *why* dictates the design. God created everything with the ability to fulfill its purpose. Therefore, to understand how we function as human beings, we have to go to the Manual given to us by the Designer and Manufacturer who created us.

*“People have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another”* (1 Corinthians 15:39). Of course, the word “*flesh*” in this instance does not refer to meat; instead, it refers to the nature of the creature—its characteristic design. God determined that human beings would be different from animals in their nature. He also determined that birds and fish would have distinct natures. The passage goes on to say,

*There are also heavenly bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor [“glory” nkjv] of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the*

*splendor [“glory” nkjv] of the earthly bodies is another. The sun has one kind of splendor [“glory” nkjv], the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor [“glory” nkjv]. (1 Corinthians 15:40–41)*

The sun is meant to do a job that the moon isn’t supposed to do, so God created the moon different from the sun. The moon is made to do its job, and no other job. The moon does not give light; it reflects light. Therefore, God did not put any light on the moon. God also made stars of different sizes and luminosity, for His own purposes. The point is that God made everything the way it is because of what it is supposed to do. And that includes us!

\*\*\*

*Thought:* To understand how we function as human beings, we have to go to the Manual given to us by the Designer and Manufacturer who created us.

*Readings:* Genesis 1:1–26; Ephesians 1:3–14

— DAY 7 —

### **Not Every Purpose Is Known to Us**

*“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.” —Psalm 119:105*

Everything God created has a purpose and is designed according to that purpose. However, not every purpose is known to us. Humanity has lost its knowledge of God’s purposes. It has not respected the fact that God’s creation and His directions for living were established for a specific reason and that, if this purpose is abandoned, we will never function properly as human beings. The result of this abandonment has been debilitating for us: we have grown further and further away from God’s original intent and design, so that we function less and less as we were

meant to. This has left us incomplete, frustrated, and in conflict with one another.

The first chapter of Romans explains that when people reject or are ignorant of the purposes of God, they end up continually abusing themselves. They abuse their bodies, their minds, their relationships, and their talents.

*Although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. (Romans 1:21)*

This verse describes those who did not know the purpose of God and did not even care to find out what it is. Even though they knew something about God and His ways, they did not want Him in their lives. They did not want to know what He wanted them to know. They were saying, in effect, “Keep Your opinions about who we are to Yourself, God. We know You made us, but mind Your own business. We know You’re there, but leave us alone.”

The next verses tell us the result of their decision: “*Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools*” (Romans 1:22). They “*exchanged the truth about God for a lie*” and “*exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones*” (verse 25–26).

When does the exchange of natural for unnatural take place? It takes place when purpose is either ignored or unknown. “*Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done*” (verse 28). They didn’t think it worthwhile to find out God’s purpose for the world or to retain the knowledge of God as to why He made humanity. They didn’t check to find out why God made women and men. They didn’t try to find out what God knows about the things

He has made. They didn't want to know, so they relied on their own inclinations.

The above statements from Romans are a description of humanity as a whole. We have rejected knowing God and His purposes, and so God's original intent for us has not been communicated in many of our cultures and traditions. It has been lost or obscured. Instead, distorted views have been passed down, so that people do not know how to relate to one another as they were meant to. This is the situation people often find themselves in, and why it is essential for us to recover our original purpose in God.

\*\*\*

*Thought:* We have grown further and further away from God's original intent and design, so that we function less and less as we were meant to.

*Readings:* Psalm 119:97–112; Romans 1:16–32<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Myles Munroe, [\*A Woman of Purpose and Power: A 90-Day Devotional\*](#) (New Kensington, PA: Whitaker House, 2019).