

Why Am I Here?

Introduction. Every thoughtful person asks some very important questions: Where did I come from? Does my life matter? Is there a purpose for my existence? Behind each question is the same longing — to know our lives have meaning.

Unfortunately, many people search for answers in the wrong places. Henry David Thoreau famously observed, “Most men live lives of quiet desperation.” Even brilliant philosophers and writers have wrestled with life’s deepest questions and often confessed they found no satisfying answers.

The problem, of course, isn’t that life has no meaning. The problem is that many people search for meaning apart from the One who created life. The prophet Jeremiah discovered the answer. In Jeremiah 1, God addressed three questions that still matter today, and I want to talk about the answers with you now.

I. Why Am I Alive?

- A. God’s answer was simple: “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you” (Jeremiah 1:5).
- B. Notice what God didn’t say: “After you accomplished something,” or “After you proved yourself valuable.” Before Jeremiah was ever born, God knew him (cp. Job 10:8-12; Isaiah 44:2).
- C. The same truth applies to us. You’re not an accident. You’re not merely the product of chance. You were created by an all-wise, all-powerful God who made you in His image (Genesis 1:27).
 - 1. We’re all “fearfully and wonderfully made” (Psalm 139:13-14). Paul informed the Athenians, “In Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28).
 - 2. Humans share in God’s nature and the attributes of personality, wisdom, love, holiness, and justice. We have the capacity for spiritual fellowship.
- D. Your existence has meaning because it begins with God.

II. Does My Life Matter?

- A. Jeremiah wasn’t so sure: “Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth” (Jeremiah 1:6).
- B. He felt too young, too inexperienced, and too inadequate. How often do we feel the same way?
 - 1. We compare ourselves to others (2 Corinthians 10:12). We focus on our weaknesses. We convince ourselves that we have little to offer.
 - 2. But God doesn’t measure our worth by our accomplishments. Our value comes from the God who created us.
 - a) You’re loved with an everlasting love (Jeremiah 31:3). God’s love isn’t based on your consistency but His character.
 - b) Nothing can separate you from His love (Romans 8:38-39). If you’re faithful, your significance is secure in Him.
 - c) You’re of more value than many sparrows. (Matthew 10:29-31). If God attends to such details, He certainly attends to you.

- C. Throughout Scripture, God repeatedly used ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things.
 - 1. Joseph was young. David was a shepherd. Timothy was inexperienced. Moses was 80 years old. Peter failed. Paul had persecuted Christians.
 - 2. Age wasn't the issue. Background wasn't the issue. Ability wasn't the issue. The question was whether they would allow God to use them.
- D. Your life matters because God values you.

III. What's My Life's Purpose?

- A. God told Jeremiah, "You shall go to all to whom I send you, and whatever I command you, you shall speak" (Jeremiah 1:7).
- B. Jeremiah had a purpose, and so do we. The Bible reveals that God has designed every Christian for a life of purpose.
 - 1. We're created to worship God because He delights in His people (Psalm 149:4).
 - 2. We're adopted into God's family to enjoy fellowship with Him and with one another (Ephesians 1:5).
 - 3. We're being transformed into the likeness of Christ as we grow in discipleship (Philippians 2:5).
 - 4. We're God's workmanship, created in Christ for good works, serving others with the gifts He has given us (Ephesians 2:10).
 - 5. We're entrusted with the wonderful mission of sharing the good news with a world searching for hope (Matthew 28:19-20).
- C. God never intended for us merely to exist — to eat, breathe, work, retire, and die. He created us to know Him, love Him, serve Him, and point others to Him.
 - 1. Acts 13:36 provides a fitting summary of David's life. It's a wonderful epitaph saying that David served God's purpose in his generation.
 - 2. Even ordinary moments matter. Purpose isn't only in big achievements; it's in faithful, God-glorifying living (1 Corinthians 10:31).
- D. Your life in this generation exists for God's purpose.

Conclusion. If you're feeling insignificant, the gospel speaks directly to that: your worth isn't something you achieve; it's something you receive. In Christ, you are chosen, forgiven, adopted, and sent. That identity doesn't fluctuate with success, failure, or other people's opinions.

You're alive because God formed you. You matter because God values you. You have purpose because God calls you. Live each day serving His purpose until your work on earth is done.

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