

Still in Hiding?: Hiding from our Purpose

All too often we run from our purpose, ignore the still small voice inside, or hide from God hoping that someone else will do what we are created to do. What if we stopped hiding and answered God's purpose for our life?

Monday—Exodus 3:4 – 4:18

Although a long scripture read today, the conversation between God and Moses is incredible! God calls Moses, and Moses cheerfully answers “here I am.” But when God tells Moses “the plans” Moses has every excuse possible—why me, but no one will believe me or listen to me, but I don't have the right skills, and finally he pleads, “Please just ask someone else!” However, God simply wasn't going to take “no” for an answer. At times, perhaps God's message to us might sound like “just do it!”

Tuesday—Luke 1:26-38

We have all read this Christmas story. Mary's response to the angel's message and God's call was only one legitimate question--“how will this be?” Surely Mary had quick thoughts of the difficulties she would face in this situation! Did she say, “Let me think about it and weigh the costs?” No. Her answer is simply, “I am the Lord's servant.” Obedience, humility, and trust.

Wednesday—Luke 9:51 - 10:24

Another long scripture to read today, but it is full of great messages. Here Jesus is sending out 72 workers in pairs. Not one with “unique qualifications.” Read it twice if you have time! What if we stopped hiding and answered God's purpose for our life? Focus on 10: 17-20.

Thursday—1 Corinthians 9: 19-27

Speaking: Paul, the man who answered the call! Are you ready to obtain the prize, the crown that will last forever? Are you willing to go into strict training? What is your training plan? What is your goal? A sprint? A marathon? Maybe a team relay? Have you/can you set a goal? Shorter read today, so spend some time in prayer and talk with God about your goal plans and training. Listen to that still small voice.

Friday—Matthew 26: 36-45

Yes, Jesus had a goal from the very beginning. Fully human here in the quiet of his prayers in the garden, he felt a great fear and dread of his mission on earth in the last moments before his arrest. Luke adds that as Jesus was in great anguish, while praying his sweat was like drops of blood. His was the ultimate “yes” to God's plan. Repeat your prayer time from yesterday. What is God calling you to do? Are you hiding from His purpose for your life?

Saturday

Review the week's readings/your thoughts/that still small voice. In preparation for Sunday's message “Still Hiding? A New Life!” read Romans 6: 1-14.