

ON PURPOSE: ASK, SEEK, KNOCK, REPEAT

Judges 6:10-12 (NLT)

Just like God put Purpose in Gideon, God gave you a purpose as well.
Just like God showed Gideon, God wants to show you your purpose as well.

The Lie: God is making it hard to discover my purpose.

1 Corinthians 2:6-10 (NIV) *We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. ⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" -- ¹⁰ but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.*

That means, you're going to have to search it out.

Luke 11:9-10 (NLT) ⁹ *"And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.*

"There is nothing more difficult than to ask. We will long and desire and crave and suffer, but not until we are at the extreme limit will we ask. A sense of unreality makes us ask. Matthew 7:8 says "For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." This does not mean you will not get if you do not ask, but until you get to the point of asking you won't receive from God. To receive means you have come into the relationship of a child of God, and now you perceive with intelligent and moral appreciation and spiritual understanding that these things come from God."

-Oswald Chambers

Luke 11:5-8 (NLT) ⁵ *Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: "Suppose you went to a friend's house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, ⁶ 'A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.' ⁷ And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, 'Don't bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can't help you.' ⁸ But I tell you this—*

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though he won't do it for friendship's sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence.

Steps to discover purpose:

1. Surrender your will to God.

Romans 8:28, 31 (NIV) *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose..... ³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?*

Joshua 7:2-12 (NLT)

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

2. Trial and error.

Get out there. Jump in. Roll up your sleeves. Try something out.

3. Simply become aware of other people's needs.

2 Things:

You do have a purpose

Your purpose is, in some way, related to people.

4. Your purpose could be related to the pain and experience you have experienced.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NIV) *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.*

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