



Week Three: PURPOSE

Key points

Think back through the message.
What stuck out?

Key Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

What in the world are we here for?

Renewal comes as we live in combination with Jesus and pursue His Kingdom purposes

We are here to help people know Jesus

Matthew 28:18-20

The background to the Corinthian letters

- Local church tension
- Major cross-road of trade routes
- Olympiad city
- Aphroditie worship

vs. 16a

What is a worldly point of view?

- Making judgments based on external appearances

vs. 16b-18

Your whole world has a whole new purpose

Romans 8:28

vs. 19

It is always easier to deconstruct

It is always difficult and complex when we choose to reconcile

vs. 20-21

You are an ambassador for Jesus, representing Heaven's sovereign claims in a foreign country (planet earth)

Renew your purpose

Studying through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps.

Implementing Hospitality

How would you define Hospitality?

Are you a hospitable person? What about with people you do not like? You may not have to invite them into your home, but how do you treat them? How do you treat people at church?

One of the most important calls that Christ gives His church is to be welcoming to people. We are His ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:20), so, Jesus uses us to be His welcoming arms to draw people from the outside into His presence! He is the Seeker; we are the ones He seeks, and sometimes we are the ones He uses to seek others. It is God's desire that all of His children will be saved, and, yet, few will accept His grace. It is the role of the Holy Spirit to save people, and we are the instruments through which He works. So, we must be a church who welcomes not only Believers, but also those who may never before in their lives have been inside of a church. This ministry of Hospitality has the role of being His ambassador.

Our role is: Welcoming people and connecting people into the life of the church.

This may be hard at first until we get our welcoming "sea legs." As our culture is so individualistic, we tend not to bother with others, assuming they can take care of themselves. After all, we have poster and a sign out front. So, you may wonder, *where do I fit in as an ambassador?* We fit in when we encourage others with a smile, and making others feel special, because they are. In that way, we can be the church that God has called us to be!

Key Bible passages to follow up on:

- Matthew 25:34-43
- Luke 10:30-37
- Acts 4:32
- Romans 12:13; 16:33
- 1 Timothy 5:10
- Hebrews 13:2
- 1 Peter 4:7-11
- 3 John 1:5-8

