

01 • A Magnifier of His Name

Many are the _____ in the mind of a _____, but it is the _____ of the _____ that will stand. (Prov 19:21)

Our Creator has purposes. Purposes are the reasons **why** something exists or is done. Purposes are aims, designs, and desired outcomes. Our Creator is a God of purpose (Prov 16:4; Isa 46:9-10; Luke 4:43; John 18:37; Eph 3:11).

One of the most important things we can do is pause every once in a while and ask, **“What’s my purpose? What does God want me to be?”** One God-given answer to that question: God wants me to be a _____ of his _____.

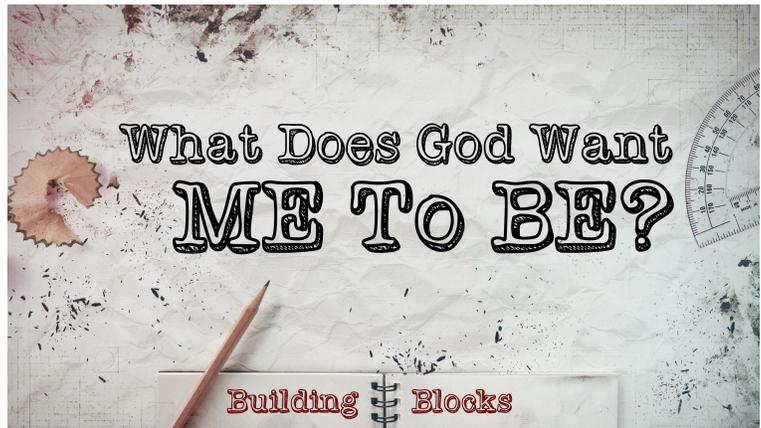
Maybe when you first hear that, you think of a magnifying glass. But there are two kinds of **“magnifying.”** We’re not talking about making some tiny thing look bigger than it is, like a microscope. We’re talking more like a telescope, where a really **BIG** thing begins to look as big as it *really* is. That’s what David is talking about in Psalm 69:30:

I will praise the name of God with a song; I will _____ him with thanksgiving.

This is **why** we exist (Isa 43:6-7). When we forget that fact and act “bigger” than we really are (Isa 10:13-15), we’re not doing what we were created to do. No thing and nobody is bigger or more important than God. He created me to love him and to **“magnify”** him—to make his awesomeness look as great as it really is.

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may _____ the _____ of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (1 Pet 2:9)

What’s my purpose? To live in a way that others might see what is true: “_____ is _____.”



For Class & Family Discussion:

- Why is it a really good idea to remember the wisdom contained in Proverbs 19:21? (see also James 4:13-17)
- Let’s think through David’s words in Psalm 69:30:
 - How is praising God in song a way of **“magnifying”** him?
 - How, when we take the time to express our thanks to God, are we **“magnifying”** him?
 - How, when we gather together with our church family for worship, are we communicating Psalm 34:3 to each other?
- Is it easy for us today to fall into the same trap as the king of Assyria in Isaiah 10:13-15? If so, how so?
- In your own words, how do you have opportunities to **“proclaim the excellencies”** of God in everyday life?
- We read words of great confidence in Psalm 138:8. How can we have that same sort of confidence today?