

02 • A Model of His Character

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

Our Creator has purposes. Purposes are the reasons **why** something exists or is done, and “the LORD has made everything for its purpose” (Prov 16:4).

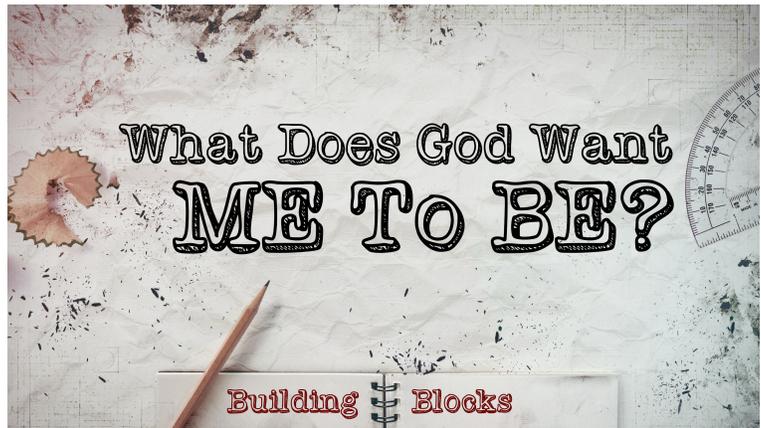
One of the most important things we can do is pause every once in a while and ask, **“What’s my purpose?”** Last week we learned: God wants me to be a **magnifier** of his **name** so that others can see through me, “God is great.” But God also wants me to be a _____ of his **character**. That’s a really big part of what it means to be created “in the _____ of God” (Gen 1:26-27) and to be “_____” as he is “holy” (1 Pet 1:14-16).

In 1 Timothy 4:12, the apostle Paul encouraged Timothy to “set the believers an example” in:

- _____: what I say
- _____: how I act
- _____: how I treat
- _____: what I believe
- _____: who I am

Paul made it clear that these sorts of things require “practice” and “training” if others are going to be able to “see” our “progress” (1 Tim 4:6-8, 15). But that’s exactly what God wants me and you to be: **models** of his **character** for other people to **see**. In fact, that’s how Jesus described discipleship—“everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher” (Luke 6:40).

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



For Class & Family Discussion:

- In your own words, what does it mean to be created “in the image” of God (Gen 1:26-27)?
- If I “image” the character of my Creator into the world around me, what will that look like in everyday terms?
- How can “the passions” of my “former ignorance” (1 Pet 1:14-16) get in the way of providing a clear “image” of God’s character for the people around me?
- Practically speaking, what’s it going to look like to “model” the character of God in:
 - My speech?
 - My conduct?
 - My love?
 - My faith?
 - My purity?
- How can I “practice” and “train” myself in these things (1 Tim 4:7-8, 15)?
- Is God good, even when life isn’t easy? How can I model that for others who need to see what is true?

