

NEW - PART 6: NEW PURPOSE

Pastor Bill Bush
October 4, 2009

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SHARPEN THE POINT
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For further study of today's message

CORE TRUTH:

As a follower of Jesus, you are transformed
into a NEW person FOR a NEW purpose!

Acts 9 (NLT) The Conversion Story of the Apostle Paul

Is your PURPOSE...

...S _____,

Acts 22:3, Philippians 3:4-5

...S _____,

Who knocked him off the donkey?

...or S _____? (v. 15)

"...to bear My name..." "...to take My message to..."

Ephesians 1:18

How? Matthew 6:24-34

"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously,
and He will give you everything you need." (v. 33)

Are you living a life of significance that glorifies God?

ENTRY POINT: *Success* – the achievement of something desired, planned or attempted. *Significant* – having or likely to have a major effect; important. The Apostle Paul knew what it was to be successful, but he considered his success before his conversion to be "worthless because of what Christ has done." *Philippians 3:7b*. After his total surrender to - and **new** life in - Christ, Paul became the greatest missionary in the early church. *What was important to God was of utmost importance to Paul.* Read **Philippians 3**.

How do you see the relationship between success and significance? Do you think that success brings significance? Or that significance is success? Is it possible to have one without the other, and, if so, how?

What is more important to you, successfully doing something of your own choosing, or fulfilling the purpose for which you were created? How does this look in your life? What do you count as success and what as significant?

It is said that we may not know that God is all we need until God is all we have. Has God ever brought you to the place where you absolutely *knew* there was nothing in the world you could not lose except His love...that your very *survival* depended on choosing Him? How did your life and relationship with him *significantly* change at this point?

What is it that makes your life significant today? What are you doing with what God has given you? How important is it to you to seek what is important to God?

*"But I keep working toward the day
when I will finally be
all that Christ Jesus saved me for
and wants me to be."
Philippians 3:12b (NLT)*