



Study Guide: Episode 32, How to Fulfill Your Divine Purpose

Esther

Guest: Melinda Brown

00:00-04:24	"QOTW: How do I discover & fulfill my Divine Purpose?"
04:25-14:09	"Seeing the Divine in the book of Esther"
14:10-22:44	"Historical context & great qualities of Esther—boldness, kindness"
22:45-33:16	"For what have YOU come 'at such a time as this'?"
33:17-42:10	"Your <i>overarching</i> Purpose & <i>personal</i> Purpose; living 'The Meaningful Life'"
42:11-49:00	"To understand & fulfill your purpose, 1st, bring the Lord in"
49:01-END	"2nd, be curious & open, & find 'purpose in the pain'"

1. Have you felt like you have a "Divine Purpose?" How have you identified this? How has this changed throughout your life? What have you done to try & identify/fulfill this Divine Purpose? What do you feel you still need to know/understand in order to fully fulfill this Purpose? Do one thing this week to work toward this goal.
2. For what have YOU come "at such a time as this?" What are you here on earth to do at this time in your life? What is God asking of you, in order to help Him fulfill His plan for you & the world?
3. In what ways have you, like Esther, shown courage in the face of opposition? In what areas might you need to develop greater courage or boldness? What do you learn from the stories in Esther about how to begin?
4. God is "hidden" in these chapters, and yet, He is everywhere. How might He seem hidden in your life? Might He really be "everywhere" in your life, too? Seek Him out daily & write down, daily, what you see/feel/experience that shows He is there.
5. Listen to 33:17-42:10. Are you living "The Pleasant Life?" "The Engaged Life?" "The Meaningful Life?" None of these? Why or why not? Where are you now? What might you do to take one step toward eventually living "The meaningful life?"

6. Commit to working on finding & fulfilling your unique Divine Purpose this week:
 - a. Listen to this podcast episode & note the things that sound helpful & useful for you.
 - b. Be curious and open to trying new things & seeing new perspectives. Look at this as an *opportunity* to learn about yourself & do more of what you're good at/love to bring others to the gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - c. Search the painful experiences of your life for the "purpose in the pain."
 - d. Search your passions for what you love, what your spiritual gifts & talents are, and what lights you up.
 - e. Write all these things down and look for the patterns and overarching themes.
 - f. Remember, the underlying purpose is to bring souls to Christ.

Resources

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