

People of Destiny

Text: John 13:1-5 16:33 17:5-11

God has a specific purpose and a destiny for your life. It is your responsibility to find out what it is and align yourself with it. This is the only way to be truly **satisfied** and **successful**.

Introduction:

What has 9-11 done to you? It has radically changed our world. However, our world can change without us being changed. Many people are rethinking their purpose, priority, and passion.

- ✓ What does it take to fly a plane into a world trade tower?
- ✓ What does it take to take on hijackers and bring a plane down?
- ✓ What does it take to win?
- ✓ What does it take to be counted?
- ✓ What does it take to live a life of fewer regrets?
- ✓ What does it take to be truly satisfied and successful?

Text:

John 13:1-5 *Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet*

Jesus knew: (Know who you are) {Ex. - Seeing Jesus in each other}

- ✓ Who He was
- ✓ Where He came from
- ✓ Why He was here and
- ✓ Where He was going
----The most beautiful picture of death in the Scriptures---“going to the Father”

John 16:33 – *These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*

John 17:5-11 *Jesus Prays for Himself*

- ✓ How many of us know there are two worlds? That we will have trouble but we can have triumph.
- ✓ Nothing reveals the soul like prayer.
- ✓ How many of us do things knowing that it is time.
- ✓ Ask for spiritual gifts and blessings, then give it back to God—don't use them selfishly: Honor, power, glory, authority, opportunities, relationships, etc.
- ✓ How many of us go about knowing “God has sent us”
- ✓ The best way to glorify God is to “finish the work” He gave you to do.

- ◆ “It is finished” was not defeat – He did not say “I am finished”, but what he said was a statement of victory, satisfaction, success, and release
Jesus was a Man of Destiny!

People of Destiny are:

(Definition of Destiny: your overall circumstances or condition in life, including everything that happens to you)

1. **Deliberate** – focused effort – as a rifle, laser beam not a shotgun approach to life, but intentionally.

Luke 2:49 – I must be about my Father’s business

John 4:34 – My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and finish the work

2. **Dedicated** – Given over to the task at hand—No distractions
 - i. Devoted to a cause or ideal or purpose
 - ii. Set apart for a higher purpose

Philippians 2:5 – He became obedient unto death, even death on the cross

Philippians 3:12-16 – Paul said “this one thing I do”

3. **Diligent** – without haste, no delay – work long, hard, and steady

John 9:4 – I must work the work of Him who sent me, while it is day...

4. **Disciplined** – No distractions or hindrances
 - i. Self-control

Two-Kinds of discipline:

A. Internal – self discipline

B. External – discipline through others

Hebrews 12:1-3 – keep your eyes on Jesus. He kept His eyes on His goals

5. **Decisive** – Committed to decision and action
 - i. Having the ability to determine certain outcomes

Luke 22:39-46 – In Gethsemane He prayed “Not my will but yours...”

Being decisive does not mean that there are not doubts, but it does mean that determination will triumph over doubt.

Ezra, a Man of the Heart

He applied God’s word to himself before preaching it to others

Ezra 10:1 - While Ezra was praying and confessing, weeping and throwing himself down before the house of God, a large crowd of Israelites--men, women and children--gathered around him.

- ✓ Ezra knew how to get things done. He had the political savvy to win a Persian king's support for the trip back to Jerusalem, the salesmanship to convince Jewish family leaders to go along, and the organizational know-how to mount the long, complicated, and dangerous expedition.
- ✓ At the same time, Ezra was a priest who depended on God. He set aside days for fasting and prayer. He knew and lived by the Old Testament law, but used it as a path to a profound relationship with God. When he studied Scripture, he applied it to himself before applying it to others.

7:10 - For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.

Conclusion & Application:

- ✓ God has a specific plan and place for you.
- ✓ Are you a person with a mission and a person on a mission?
- ✓ What are your mandates, motives, message, and methods?

Things that you and I need to work through...

Five Defining Questions:

1. Who am I?
2. Where did I come from?
3. Why am I here today?
4. Where am I going?
5. How do I get there?

Five Deciding Questions:

1. What am I doing that will continue after I leave?
2. What will I do to take with me when I leave?
3. What would I do in my life for others if money were not an issue?
4. What would I do in my life for others if money were an issue?
5. What is there in my life that if I don't do it, it will never be done and what will be the consequences for leaving them undone?

Purpose and Destiny of the Seed:

- ✓ Seed stored in a bag somewhere in a barn only has one purpose
 1. To be planted
- ✓ Seed planted no longer has a purpose, but a destiny
 1. Application of soil, water, and sunlight
 2. Growth
 3. Production
- ✓ The Destiny of the seed is to ultimately produce MORE!
- ✓ Process of the seed:
 1. Good Foundation: strengthens the roots to withstand nature

2. Sun Light: Greater growth increase
 3. Water: Larger Fruit Production
- ✓ So Must a Christian Be:
 1. Founded on a strong foundation in the word of God
 2. Always a light in darkness looking towards the Son
 3. Growing from the “Living Water”
 - ✓ As the seed of corn so must the Christian realize our destiny:
 1. Application of the Word of God in our lives (Not what it says, but what it means to you in its applied form)
 2. Spiritual growth from the application process
 3. Producing Fruit: Soul Winning!

Gal 5:22-23- But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Matthew 28:19-20 - Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."