

What is My Purpose?

For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you. And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith—Philippians 1:23-28

Paul was chained to a Roman soldier. He tells us, *“Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep.”* He had labored, he had endured, he felt totally spent and he was ready to be in the presence of his blessed Savior. Even though that was his desire, he was willing to remain a prisoner if God had a purpose for him.

Last week my husband had a heart attack and I was confronted with how shallow my purposes are in many of the things I do. I focus on the tasks of my job. I stress about course content, program development, and regulations. I pay attention to routines at home: cooking, cleaning, yard work, and laundry. All these things are important parts of life but I had to ask myself, what is God's purpose in leaving me here today?

Now I am trying to ask what is God's purpose for me today. How does God want to use me in the lives of my husband, family, friends, students and colleagues? What is God's purpose in the courses I am teaching? In the meals I am cooking?

I am blessed to have this day and it is my desire that everything I do will accomplish God's purpose.