



# LIVING ON PURPOSE

How to Develop a Strategic Plan for Your Life

Revised Version 2.2

Analyze. . . Adjust. . . Accomplish

Transition Assistance by an Inmate – for Inmates – and all others seeking Freedom

By Bob Riddle

**LIVING ON PURPOSE**  
**How to Develop A Strategic Plan For Your Life**

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**CHART 3****THE PRINCIPLES OF WHOLENESS & BALANCE****1 Thessalonians 5:23**

<u>APPLICATION</u>	<u>BODY</u>	<u>SOUL</u>	<u>SPIRIT</u>
New Testament Greek	Σώμα (sōma)	Ψύχή (psyche)	Πνεῦμα (pneuma)
Life	Physical	Psychological	Spiritual (Prov. 20:27)
We know the world. . .	Around us (5 senses)	Within us (mind, will, emotions)	Above us (God/Angels; Satan demons)
If Balanced we are. . .	Healthy	Happy	Holy
Drives	Sex, Hunger, Rest, Self- preservation	Creative, Dominion, Curiosity, Sensitivity	Approval, Worship, Significance
Temptation (Ephesians 2:1-3, 1 John 2:16)	Flesh (our sinful nature)	World (temporal values)	Devil (tension between good & evil)
Temptations of Christ (Heb. 4:15)	Physical Hunger Matt. 4:2-3	Pride Matt. 4:5-6	Authority Matt. 4:8-9
Proper Response	Flight (2 Tim. 2:22)	Faith (1 John 5:4)	Fight (James 4:7)
Results of Adam's sin (Gen. 3)	Physical Death (Ultimately)	Soul Death (Gradually)	Spiritual Death (Instantly)
Results of Redemption (Rom. 6:14)	Glorified (Ultimately) (1 Cor. 15:42-57)	Sanctified (Gradually) (Rom. 12:2)	Justified (Instantly) (Rom. 5:1; 8:1)
In Relationships	Shallow	Deeper	Deepest
Time	Temporal	Eternal	Eternal

## **FIRST STEPS**

Take a look at Chart 1 – Developing a Life Purpose Statement. The column headings are self-explanatory, though the process may be unfamiliar. The exercises that follow will move by topic from right to left, generally from the easiest to the more difficult.

For classification the following definitions will be helpful and used throughout the material.

**PURPOSE** – Answers the questions “*Why?*” - Such as “Why was I created?”, “Why should I believe God has a purpose for my life?”, “Why should I develop a Strategic Plan for my life?”, etc. You have *one* Life Purpose. Determining that will be both the most challenging and the most rewarding result of this process.

**MISSION** – Answers the question “*What?*” - such as “What must I do to fulfill my Life’s Purpose?” It is crucial to know that while you have been carefully, lovingly and intentionally designed for one *Purpose*, you will experience several changes in *Mission* over the course of your life’s journey.

**GOALS** – Answers the questions “*Who?*”, “*When?*”, “*Where?*”, “*How?*”, “*How much?*”, and “*How Long?*” Many **Goals** will be set to accomplish your various **Missions** in the ultimate fulfillment of your **Purpose**. In the process of developing your life’s Strategic Plan you will learn how to both set and achieve necessary goals. You will learn the value of setting “SMART” goals: Specific, Measureable, Attainable, Realistic and Tangible.

**VISION** – Your vision statement is a well-defined *picture* of your Life’s Strategic Plan, Detailed, colorful and clearly focused, it will enable you to keep in constant view both the path and the destination defined by your Life Purpose Statement.

**TEN-YEAR LETTER** – One of the most exciting exercises you will enjoy at the conclusion of this journey will be writing a letter to a friend (spouse, family member) describing – in advance – all the accomplishments and fulfilled dreams you expect to have realized in the “past” ten years. Naturally, the letter will be based on your new understanding of your Dreams, Talents & Skills, Personality, Drives, Gifts and Calling.

To assist you in this process each section will follow the three steps mentioned previously: Analyze, Adjust and Accomplish. Chart 2 shows the planned progression.

## **UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS**

The material in your hands was developed on the assumptions that. . .

- 1) You *want* your life to have meaning, purpose and significance;
- 2) You need *help* addressing those issues;
- 3) You are willing to *work* to make that happen;
- 4) You are *dissatisfied* with both where you are at present and where you are headed;
- 5) You want to believe God has the *answers* to these questions; and
- 6) You choose to believe He wants to *reveal* those answers to you.

To be honest, an atheist or even a practicing agnostic or skeptic will realize no ultimate benefit from this process. On the other hand, your past religious training and experience or your chosen denominational affiliation are not of primary consideration. Of greatest importance is your belief that a loving Father God desires to take you by the hand, guide you step-by-step and accomplish “great and mighty things” that are “exceedingly, abundantly above all you ask or think.” You will be given frequent opportunities to explore various Scripture passages as God’s purpose for your life begins to change from foggy and out-of-focus to a clear vision of His plans for you.

This journey will take *Time*. Decide now to be patient and enjoy each step of the journey. The ride will be fun and rewarding, though occasionally frustrating. Make a covenant now that you will not quit before completing this process. From time to time you may need to stop, take a breath and review what you are learning. But, as Winston Churchill told the British people during World War II, “. . . never, never, never, never, never give up.” The benefits are worth the effort. The price of quitting before the finish line is too high.

### **3. Personality**

**Keyword: “*Integrity*” – Proverbs 22:6**

God has created each of us with a unique personal style or “personality.” While highly individualistic, there are common patterns among various styles that allow a certain level of understanding, even predictability. There are four commonly accepted “basic temperaments,” sixteen secondary styles and as many variations as there are people. Like fingerprints, however, there exist certain “markers” that allow us an understanding of these styles. Each is unique in its communication, behavior, reaction to crisis, and interpretation of others’ motives and behavior.

Long a domain of professional scholars, counselors, and therapists, today *any* wise leader – especially those involved in daily interaction with other people – should be well-acquainted with this information. Think of your personality as a type of *filter*. How you are “wired” governs how you interpret any situation, what behavior follows as a result of that, how you communicate your thoughts, evaluate risk, and conversely, how your words and actions are perceived (filtered) by others.

The following Inventories are *not* tests! They are simply mirrors to reflect your personal style. Therefore, each style is neither “right” nor “wrong”; simply different. [NOTE: The “Emotional Quotient” material will appear in a later edition of this material.]

**STOP!** and complete the ***Personal Style Survey*** on pages 14 and 15 before reading further.

## **Living on Purpose**

### ***Personal Style Survey***

**DIRECTIONS:** Quickly, without lingering, look at each line of 4 character qualities and circle the ONE that most nearly represents your most common behavior. When there is a “tie,” choose the one that *most often* is accurate. Only one word per line may be circled. There is no “right” or “wrong” answers. This is a *mirror*, not a test.

	A	B	C	D
1	Restrained	Forceful	Careful	Expressive
2	Pioneering	Correct	Exciting	Satisfied
3	Willing	Animated	Bold	Precise
4	Argumentative	Doubting	Indecisive	Unpredictable
5	Respectful	Outgoing	Patient	Daring
6	Persuasive	Self-reliant	Logical	Gentle
7	Cautious	Even-tempered	Decisive	Life of the Party
8	Popular	Assertive	Perfectionist	Generous
9	Colorful	Modest	Easy-going	Unyielding
10	Systematic	Optimistic	Persistent	Accommodating
11	Relentless	Humble	Neighborly	Talkative
12	Friendly	Observant	Playful	Strong-willed
13	Charming	Adventurous	Disciplined	Deliberate
14	Restrained	Steady	Aggressive	Attractive
15	Enthusiastic	Analytical	Sympathetic	Determined
16	Commanding	Impulsive	Slow-paced	Critical
17	Consistent	Force of character	Lively	Laid-back
18	Influential	Kind	Independent	Orderly
19	Idealistic	Popular	Pleasant	Out-spoken
20	Impatient	Serious	Procrastinator	Emotional
21	Competitive	Spontaneous	Loyal	Thoughtful
22	Self-sacrificing	Considerate	Convincing	Courageous
23	Dependent	Flighty	Stoic	Push
24	Tolerant	Conventional	Stimulating	Directing

*Now go to the Scoring Sheet.*

## 5. Spiritual Gifts

### Keyword: “*Service*” – Romans 12:1-2

Sometimes the use of the word “gifts” in a personal application is used interchangeably with the term “talents.” An example would be, “She is such a *gifted* person. . .” That is not the intended use here. This discussion centers around the SPIRITUAL GIFTS described in the Bible.

A working definition might be:

“A God-given special endowment for the performance of godly service.”

To be fair, there are probably as many lists, definitions, interpretations and explanations of spiritual gifts as there are theologians. This section is not meant to confuse, however, but to help you clarify how the Lord has uniquely fashioned you for His purpose. For review, read again the following short Bible passages related to spiritual gifts:

Romans 12:3-8

1 Corinthians 12: 8-10

Ephesians 4:11-16

Great controversy surrounds many discussions about these gifts, all of which I hope to avoid here. One way to view the gifts is to consider them in two categories: *Ministry* and *Motivational*. The focus of such a grouping puts the emphasis on their intended use.

#### Ministry

Apostles

Prophets

Evangelists

Pastors

Teachers

#### Motivational

Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Healing

Miracles, Prophecy, Tongues

Spiritual Discernment, Interpretation of Tongues

Service, Exhortation, Giving

Leadership, Mercy

No attempt is made at this time to provide a lengthy, scholarly discussion of these gifts. For general purposes, however, consider these general guidelines regarding gifts as found in the above-referenced Scriptural passages:

- Only redeemed followers of Christ have these gifts;
- Every believer has *at least* one spiritual gift;

- The Holy Spirit alone determines your gift(s);
- Gifts are for service to Christ and His church, not for personal edification as is popularly taught today;
- All gifts may be either – *Used* or *Abused*;
- Every believer should both *know* and *employ* his gift(s).

The New Testament was originally written in Koine Greek. The Greek word translated “gifts” in the Bible passage listed above is the word χάρισματα (charismata) which literally means “grace gifts”. These are supernaturally dispensed gifts for godly service that turn ordinary men into extraordinary champions for Christ.

A parallel may be used for illustration by observing the nine “systems” that exist in our physical bodies.

<u>SYSTEM</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>
Skeletal	Structure, red blood cell production
Respiratory	Breathing, O2 intake, CO2 output
Circulatory	Distribution of O2, CO2, nutrients, waste disposal
Digestive	Processing of food, elimination of waste
Neurological	Sensory, motor and autonomic nerves (brain-controlled electrical Systems)
Muscular	Movement, strength, function
Endocrine	Hormone secretion, thyroid, pituitary, Adrenal glands
Lymph	Production of white blood cells, immune protection
Epidermal	Skin (the largest organ), temperature control, protect

In observing the physical body’s systems, the similarities may be seen in the spiritual gifts’ purpose and use in the body of Christ (the church). Each system/gift is ***INDEPENDENT*** in that it performs a function not seen in another system or gift. Each is also ***DEPENDENT***. The lungs cannot provide respiration without proper muscle function (ask anyone with asthma!) The digestive system is useless without the circulation of blood. Finally, each system is ***INTERDEPENDENT*** in that the body functions properly only when all the systems work together in harmony. This is why the apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth,

*“For as the body is one and has many members...so is the body of Christ...the foot cannot say “I am not a hand, so I am not a part of the body”...the ear cannot say, “Because I am not an eye I am not a part of*

*the body"... But God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased...But now indeed there are many members, yet one body... that the members should care for one another..."*

(See I Corinthians chapter 12)

To assist you in the determination and application of your gift, please complete the following "Spiritual Gifts Inventory". After each question, circle the most appropriate number, #1 being "almost never" and #5 being "almost always", or somewhere in between.

Total the numbers you have circled for each page and place the total at the bottom of that page. If your total is 40 or above, you display a predominance of that gift.

Once you have completed this exercise, make a note of your gift(s). You will be asked to include this information in a later exercise.

**PLEASE PROCEED TO THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY ON THE NEXT PAGE**

## 6. Calling

### **Keyword: “Completion” – Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-12**

The term “CALLING” comes from the same root word from which comes both *vocation* and *voice*. The implication is clear: to have a *calling* to a specific *vocation* one must hear and follow a specific *voice*. Knowing this, our adversary – Satan – is a master at obfuscation. He knows just how to disguise his voice to sound authentic, to sound like God’s voice. He orchestrates certain drives within us, plays on our personality challenges and very cleverly accomplishes his goals – to keep us from hearing the voice of God, to play to our weaknesses, to get us off course, to deceive, devour and destroy.

The devil is clever, but he is not God. Therefore, he is neither omnipotent nor omniscient (see 1 John 4:4).

Followers of Christ have for centuries debated the meaning and interpretation of biblical training on this subject. Below are samples of a few variations.

- Only the original apostles were “called”;
- Only key Bible leaders were “called” (e.g. Abraham, Moses, Paul, etc.);
- Specific callings only occurred in Bible times;
- We can hear God’s call today;
- All believers are “called.”

And there are many more such ideas.

For the purpose of this material let’s study a few key Bible passages and learn more about this important topic. First, let’s begin with the biblical account of Jesus calling the twelve apostles. Read:

- Matthew 4:18-22; 9:9; 10:1-4
- Mark 1:16-20; 2:13-14; 3:13-19
- Luke 5:1-11, 27-28; 6:13-16
- John 1:40-49
- Acts 1:13, 21-26; 9:1-22
- Galatians 1:11-24
- See also Luke 10:1-12 et al.
- Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

In a careful and thorough study of the Scriptures several key truths emerge related to the subject of *calling*:

- God occasionally calls *key leaders* to perform a specific task for a specific time;
- God chooses *ordinary* people to perform *extraordinary* work;
- God calls *all followers of Christ* to a life of obedient, joyful service;
- God *equips every person called* with the tools and resources to accomplish His assignments;
- Fulfillment, purpose and legacy are found in *knowing* and *pursuing* your calling.

Note on page viii on Chart 1 the division between two types of “calling”: *Leaders* and *Supporting Follower*. For the moment, take a look at the work you have already completed in previous exercises. Based on your 1) *Dominant Personal Style*; your 2) *Strongest Drives*; and your 3) *Spiritual Gifts*, which do you consider the most natural role for you to perform in life (choose one): \_\_\_\_\_ Leader; \_\_\_\_\_ Supporting Follower.

A word of encouragement for the Supporting Follower: You may never see your name in lights or on a marquee or become a household name like some Leader. Your service to the King, however, is no less vital and important. In fact you are in the majority! A Bible verse and a true story will illustrate this truth.

“These were the potters and those who dwell among the plants and hedges; there they *dwell* with the King and *for his work*.”  
 1 Chronicles 4:23

In nineteenth century Chicago a dedicated Sunday School teacher of young men became burdened for the soul of a young shoe salesman. The young man was known for his short temper and foul mouth. The Christian layman visited the young man several times at the shoe store, but was always rebuffed.

One day the young man, sensing this layman was not going to give up, agreed to take a short break from work and invited the persistent Sunday School teacher back to the store room. The young man heard a clear presentation of the gospel and gave his life to Christ.

This young man – Dwight L. Moody – was called of God and became a powerful and effective preacher, founded a Bible college and became famous both in North America and Europe.

Moody was invited to preach for the esteemed British pastor and author Dr. F.B. Meyer. After the service Meyer, embarrassed by this unrefined American preacher, apologized for inviting Mr. Moody. A devout lady corrected Dr. Meyer, however, and told how her heart had been so touched that she had since led each of the young girls in her Bible class to faith in Christ.

Dr. Meyer re-examined his own heart and made a fresh commitment to serve Christ. Invited to speak at an American university, he gave an unusual invitation to the students. He said, "You may not presently be willing to serve Christ, but tell God you are willing to be made willing."

A young student in the audience, Wilbur Chapman, discouraged and disillusioned, prayed that prayer. Chapman later became a noted evangelist in America. As an older man he sought for a young protégé to train to take over his ministry. He hired a former baseball player he found working in a YMCA – Billy Sunday.

In time, the name Billy Sunday became synonymous with fiery preaching and evangelism. Following a hugely successful tent revival in North Carolina led by Sunday, a group of Christian laymen committed to pray for an outpouring of God's Spirit on their city. Ten years later, at the invitation of these laymen, evangelist Mordecai Hamm came to preach in Charlotte, North Carolina.

One night, sitting in the back row of the church balcony in a futile attempt to resist the call of God on his life, a young dairy farmer's son finally surrendered, gave his heart to Jesus and was later called to preach. That man, now in his 90's, has:

- preached to over 220 million in live audiences;
- preached to over 2 billion via TV and satellite;
- preached in 85 countries;
- preached in over 420 crusades;
- written books and sold over 1 million copies
- been the confidant of 14 American presidents, Kings and Queens.

You know his name: Billy Graham.

Who started this chain of wonderful events? An obscure, but faithful Sunday School teacher in Chicago, laboring for the King among the "plants and hedges" of his community. A faithful, obedient "Supporting follower" – Charles Ezra Kimball.

Whose life are you called to touch?

The Old Testament book of Daniel provides two examples familiar to many people. In Chapter 3 we read of three godly men who defied a wicked ruler to the point of risking their lives to stand on a godly principle. You may have heard this story as a kid . . . and still can't pronounce their names! When I was about ten years old some friends and I named them "Ratshack, Peashack and Potato Digger". . . . Okay, maybe I was about twenty, but in my sixties I still remember those made-up names.

In ancient times names were very significant and carried intentional meaning. Below is a comparison of the original Hebrew names of these men compared to the Chaldean names they were given and the corresponding meaning of each. Because he was a leader and these were his friends I've included Daniel as well.

<u>Hebrew</u>		<u>Meanings</u>
1. Daniel	_____	"God is My Judge"
2. Hananiah	_____	"The Lord is Gracious"
3. Mishael	_____	"Who is Like the Lord"
4. Azariah	_____	"The Lord is my Helper"

<u>Chaldean</u>		<u>Meanings</u>
1. Belteshazzar	_____	"Bel protect the King"
2. Shadrach	_____	"Command of Aku"
3. Meshach	_____	"Who is what Aku is"
4. Abed-nego	_____	"Servant of Nego"

Note that the original names point to the one true God, while the substitutes point to the Chaldean gods Bel, Aku and Nego (Nego also in Isaiah 46:1)

This story takes place in what is now Iraq. The king Nebuchadnezzar – madly in love with himself – had a statue made that stood 90 feet tall and whose head was gold-plated. He demanded that the people bow down and worship this image of himself at a music signal. Failure to obey would result in a horrible death – being burned alive in a large furnace. (Daniel 3:1-9).

The three men, determined to be faithful to God, refused to obey this ungodly edict, even when given a second chance (vs. 13-15). Inwardly, they believed God would deliver them, but if not, were prepared to die!

*“. . . our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from your hand, O King. **But if not** let it be known to you. O King, that we do not serve*

*your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up”  
(vs. 17-18).*

Not accustomed to being disobeyed, the king ordered the furnace thermostat turned up seven times hotter. So hot in fact that the king’s men who threw Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego into the furnace were consumed by the fire themselves (v. 12). Then the most amazing thing happened.

We don’t know why King Nebuchadnezzar looked into the furnace. Incineration of the three Hebrews should have been immediate – especially since the men who approached only the edge of the fire were consumed. Perhaps (and this is my view) the testimony and conviction of these three young men – either in their late teens or early twenties – had so aroused the curiosity of this pagan king that he was compelled to wonder if this Hebrew God was real.

And that is the point of this story: These young men were determined to use this opportunity to *Point to God* even if doing so cost them their lives.

When old king Nebuchadnezzar looked into the furnace he saw not three, but **four** men! (vs. 24-25). This is not the only time Jesus appears in the Old Testament, but it certainly was a dramatic appearance. As a result, Nebuchadnezzar not only *praised God*, but *promoted these men*. (vs. 26-30).

In Chapter 6 we read the story of Daniel choosing civil disobedience over a bad law. He prayed to the God he *knew* and loved rather than submit to a plot against him. Daniel’s life was so consistent his opponents *knew* they would catch him in prayer, and they did. He was thrown into a lion’s den and expected to be torn apart. With steadfast faith, however, Daniel left the outcome in God’s hands, the God he had learned to trust completely.

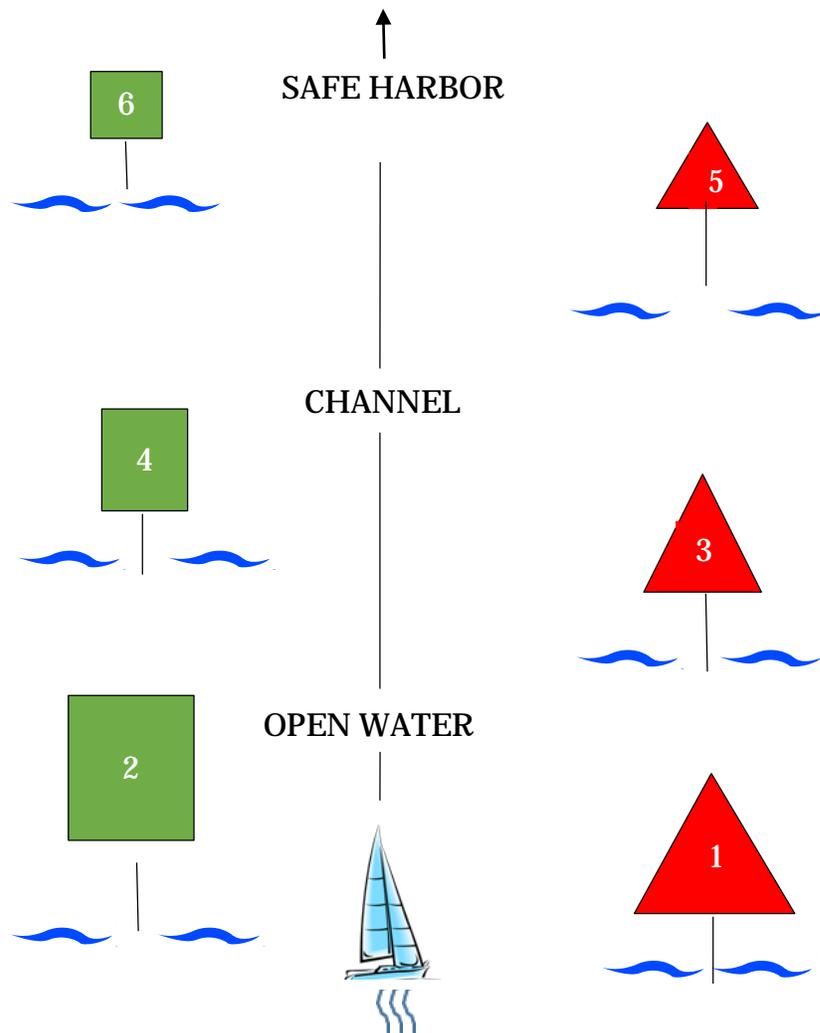
The result was admiration and influence for God on the part of King Darius. There are actually four stages to the king’s reaction – each pointing to Daniel’s godly influences.

1. 6:16 – The king believed Daniel’s God would deliver him;
2. 6:20 – The king followed up his concern by checking on Daniel’s wellbeing;
3. 6:24 – Seeing the plot for what it was, he punished Daniel’s opponents;
4. 6:25-27 – The king openly praised God by public decree.

The Scriptures and history are filled with true stories like this. Stories of men and women of all ages, educational, financial and social backgrounds choosing to spend their lives *pointing to God*. Therefore, when folks like this come to an intersection in their journey where instant and unwavering obedience is called for, living it out is the natural next step to take.

Sometimes there are lights of the same color located atop the channel markers. Some are steady while others are flashing. Even the timing of the flashing light will be noted on a nautical chart as an aid to safe navigation. This helps the sailor know that he is not only heading for the channel, but the *correct channel* for his journey (purpose).

Consider the following diagram.



Here are some tips to guarantee safe passage. Ignore them at your peril – and the peril of your passengers and crew (family, friends, employees).

- *Always stay in the center of the channel.*  
Sometimes tide and current will deposit sand and rocks along the edge of the dredged channel resulting in a more shallow depth than expected;
- *Always know your position relative to the past, present and upcoming markers.*  
This process allows you to both stay on course and determine your progress;

- *Always know your position relative to the “roadmap” (nautical chart).*  
This allows you to know your position relative to your intended destination – how far you have come, how far you have to go and whether you are adhering to your planned schedule.

You may already be seeing the parallels to your life’s strategic plan, but let’s do a quick review. First, live your life *on purpose* by staying in the center of God’s will. It is a natural – and dangerous – tendency to explore the boundaries, to see how close to the “edge” you can live without getting in serious trouble. This is a foolish approach to life for many reasons. Why would you – assuming you want to live in a manner pleasing to God – pursue danger instead of safety? Why test the limits of God’s protection, provision and blessing? Why see how far you can bend the rules or how much you can get away with before getting caught? Below are some biblical principles that address this subject.

“A man’s heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.” – Proverbs 16:9

“A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, but the simple pass on and are punished.” – Proverbs 22:3

“... the humble He teaches His way.” – Psalm 25:9

“... for Your name’s sake, lead me and guide me.” – Psalm 31:3

“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.” – Psalm 32:8

Second, a good and effective strategic plan allows you to always know whether you are “on course.” Just as road signs and mile markers on a highway allow you to know your *position* they also allow you to know your *progress*. Are you still living “on purpose?” Also – assuming you still have some markers in sight and have not “run aground” (permanently stuck), what actions and choices must be made to get back on course?

Finally, like channel markers a strategic plan enables you to continually evaluate your life from the perspective of *intent*. Your intentions are important (Vision Statement), but more important is God’s intention for your life (CALLING, PURPOSE). By frequent reference to the Plan you are able to determine not only your progress, but your *speed*. Are you on schedule according to the Plan, behind schedule or ahead of schedule? Do you need to make adjustments? If so, what adjustments? If you have accomplished certain goals ahead of schedule how should you best invest the “bonus” time?

With this background let us now examine which “channel markers” will help us discover and follow God’s plan for our lives.

## **APPENDIX ONE**

### **HOW TO KNOW FOR CERTAIN YOU HAVE ETERNAL LIFE**

***[NOTE: An expanded version of this material is available in writing and via the internet. See Appendix Five]***

#### **TWO QUESTIONS:**

- 1) Have you come to the place in your thinking where you know *for certain* that if you were to die today, you would have eternal life?  
\_\_\_\_\_ yes    \_\_\_\_\_ no
- 2) Suppose you stood alone before God and he asked, "Why should I let you into My Kingdom? If you had to give an answer, what would you say?"

Think about that!

The Bible says....

- 1) *Heaven (eternal life) is a free gift. It cannot be earned or deserved.*  
"For you have been saved by grace through faith, and not of yourselves; it is not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works..." – Ephesians 2:8-10
- 2) *Man is a sinner and therefore cannot save himself.*  
"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." -Romans 3:23  
"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Christ Jesus our Lord." –Romans 6:23
- 3) *God is just and must punish sin. But He loves man and wants us to have Eternal Life – a dilemma!*  
"It is appointed for man to die once, and after that the judgment." –Hebrews 9:27  
"For God so loved the world (you) that He gave His only Son, so that whoever Believes in Him would not perish, but have eternal life." –John 3:16
- 4) *God solved this dilemma through Jesus Christ. He paid for our sin and offers Eternal Life as a free gift.*  
"For when we were still without strength, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. But God demonstrates His love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for the ungodly." –Romans 5:6, 8

5) *We must receive this free gift by faith. Faith is not simply believing in God, but trusting Him alone for eternal life.*

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” –Hebrews 11:6

“If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, *you will be saved*. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” – Romans 10:9, 10, 13

You can receive the gift of eternal life now. If you are prepared to admit that you are a sinner and need a Savior, sense that a loving God is drawing you to Himself and are willing to give Him control of your life from this day forward...tell Him now. Right now!

You don't need fancy words. In your own words tell Him....

- \* I know I am a sinful man and cannot save myself;
- \* I cannot earn the gift of eternal life;
- \* I believe that when Jesus died He paid for my sins – all of them – and that when He rose from the dead He proved He has the power to give me a new life, too;
- \* From this day forward I surrender control of my life, my thoughts and my actions to Jesus Christ;
- \* I THANK YOU, Jesus, for allowing me to become Your child. Teach me to follow You moment by moment.

Congratulations on making not just the most important decision of your life, but for choosing to actually *begin life* as a new person.

“If any man is in Christ, he is a *new creation* – old things have passed away and all things have become new.” – II Corinthians 5:17

**For more help, see Appendix Five – “For Further Study”**

## Español

### Dos Preguntas:

- 1) Haz llegado a ese lugar en tus pensamientos que sabes por Seguro, que cuando muertos éras al cielo?  
\_\_\_\_\_ si      \_\_\_\_\_ no
- 2) Imagínate que tu mueres hoy? Y estas en Frente del Señor y al te pregunta?? Porque yo debería dejante entrar en el cielo?? Ye si tú tendrías que dorle una respuesta? ?Cuál sería?

En otras palabras, cuales son los requerid entos que tú crees que sean necesarios para entrar al cielo??

Piensa en eso.

- 1) *El cielo (via eterna) es un Regalo gratis. No puede ser ganado ó dabo.*

“Porque por gracia sois salvos por medio de la fe; y esto no de vosotros pues es don de Dios; no por obras, para que nadie se glorié, Porque somos hechura suya, creados en Cristo Jesús para buenas obras, las cuales Dios preparó de antemano para que anda urésemos en ellas.” –Efesios 2:8-10

- 2) *El hombre es un pecador y poi eso no puede su salvar se el mismo.*

“Por cuanto todas pecáron, y están destituidos de la gloria de Dios.”

-Romanos 3:23

“Porque la paga del pecado es muerte. . . .” –Romanos 6:23

- 3) *El Señor es Justo y castiga el pecado pero el ama al hombre y quiere que ellos tengan una vida eterna. Que dilema!*

Y de la manera que está estableido para los hombres que mueran una sola vez, y después de esto, el juicio.” Hebreas 9:27

“Porque de tal manera amó Dios al mundo, que ha dado a su Hijo unigénito, para que todo aquel que en él cree, no se pierda, más tenga vida eterna.” – Juan 3:16

- 4) *Dios soluciona este dilema por medio Jesús Cristo. El pagó por nuestros pecados y nos ofrece vida eterna como un regalo gratis.*

“Más Dios muestra su amor para con nosotros en que siendo aún pecadores, Cristo murió por nosotros.” –Romanos 5:6, 8

5) *El hombre Recibirá este Regalo gratis por Fe. La Fe no es simplemente creer en Dios sino confiar en él por la vida eterna.*”

“Pero sin fe es imposible agradar a Dios.” –Hebreos 11:6

“Que si confesares con tu boca que Jesús es el Señor. Y creyeres en tu corazón sé que Dios le levantó de los muertos, serás salvo. Porque con el corazón se cree para justicia, pero con la boca se confiesa para salvación, porque todo aquel que invocare el nombre del Señor, será salvo.” –Romanos 10:9, 10, 13

Usted puede recibir el regalo de la vida eterna éste momento. Si está preparado para admitir que es un pecador y necesita un Salvador, siente que Dios amorosamente le está invitando a acercarse a Él y está dispuesto a cederle completo control de su vida de ahora en adelante...dígame ahora. ¡Ahora mismo!

No necesita palabras sofisticadas. Dígame en sus propias palabras:

- Reconozco que soy un pecador y no puedo salvarme a mí mismo
- No puedo ganar o comprar el regalo de la vida eterna
- Creo que Jesús murió para pagar la pena de mis pecados, cada uno de ellos
- Y de ahora en adelante le doy a Dios todo control de mi vida, mis pensamientos y
- Te agradezco Dios por adoptarme como parte de Tú familia, enséñame que cuando Jesús resucitó de entre los muertos también mostró que Él tiene el poder para darme nueva vida. Someto mis acciones a Jesús y me comprometo a seguirle paso a paso.

¡Felicitaciones no solamente en hacer la decisión más importante de su vida pero al mismo tiempo escoger a vivir una nueva vida en el poder de Jesús!

“Por lo tanto, si alguno está en Cristo, es una nueva creación. ¡Lo viejo ha pasado, ha llegado ya lo nuevo!” 2 Corintios 5:17

**For more help, see Appendix Five – “For Further Study”**

# CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

*LIVING ON PURPOSE CURRICULUM*  
*IS AWARDED TO*

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By Inmate Ministry Resources

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_



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President, Inmate Ministry Resources

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Instructor