

# THE PURPOSE DRIVEN



In one of my favorite Peanuts cartoons, Lucy demands that Linus change TV channels and then threatens him with her fist if he doesn't.

"What makes you think you can walk right in here and take over?" asks Linus.

"These five fingers," says Lucy. "Individually they're nothing but when I curl them together like this into a single unit, they form a weapon that is terrible to behold."

"Which channel do you want?" asks Linus.

Turning away, he looks at his fingers and says, "Why can't you guys get organized like that?"

-- Bruce Shelley

One of the most successful companies in the fast food industry is Domino's Pizza. It is no surprise that the founder of the company has a clearly defined statement of mission:

In Monaghan's own words, "Domino's has a single goal. Its mission: to deliver a high-quality pizza, hot, within 30 minutes at a fair price." Everything they do at Domino's, says Monaghan, is centered on that goal.

What about the Church? Our Church? Is everything centered on the great commission that Jesus gave us in Matthew 28:19-20?

## DIGGING DEEPER...

Rick Warren wrote: *"Jesus told his Father what he had been doing for the last three years: preparing his disciples to live for God's purposes. He helped them to know and love God (worship), taught them to love each other (fellowship), gave them the Word so they could grow to maturity (discipleship), showed them how to serve (ministry), and sent them out to tell others (mission). Jesus modeled a purpose-driven life, and he taught others how to live it, too. That was the "work" that brought glory to God."* {p. 310.} Spend some time verifying and reinforcing your belief in these truths.

1. Which verse(s) in John 17:1-26 indicate that Jesus helped His disciples know and love God (worship)?
2. Which verse(s) in John 17:1-26 indicate that Jesus taught His disciples to love each other (fellowship)?
3. Which verse(s) in John 17:1-26 indicate that Jesus gave His disciples the Word so they could grow to maturity (discipleship)?
4. Which verse(s) in John 17:1-26 indicate that Jesus showed His disciples how to serve (ministry)?
5. Which verse(s) in John 17:1-26 indicate that Jesus sent His disciples out to tell others (mission)?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS...

1. Rick Warren wrote: *"These two statements sum up what this book is all about-God's five purposes for your life...."* {p. 306.} Of which two statements was he speaking? What are the five purposes that were listed by the author?
2. The author wrote, *"I strongly urge you to gather a small group of friends and form a Purpose-Driven Life Reading Group to review these chapters on a weekly basis. Discuss the implications and the applications of each chapter."* {p. 307.} What bearing does this comment have on the approach we took in going through the book over an extended time? {p. 307.}
3. Mr. Warren stated, *"Now that you understand the purpose of life, it is your responsibility to carry the message to others. God is calling you to be his messenger."* {p. 309.} In your opinion, what stands in the way of others from fulfilling this mission? What stands in your way and keeps you from carrying "the message to others"?
4. Go through and fill out the attached copy of the "Purpose-Driven Life Health Assessment." {Attached form page 1.}