

SERVING SACRIFICIALLY

DISCOVERING YOUR PURPOSE

WEEK ONE

SERVING SACRIFICIALLY... DISCOVERING YOUR PURPOSE

The first week of your Life Group session is the potluck and Covenant overview. This is an important time to share a meal, get to know one another, discuss your hopes for the group and clarify your commitments to attend each week, complete the study, and participate in the group as a whole.

This commitment is one of the keys to a healthy group. If you're ready to sign the Covenant (commitment sheet) at your first meeting, that's great. However, if you want more time to think about your commitment, you are welcome to wait until the third week to make your decision.

This week at your Life Group, you will walk through the Life Group Covenant and discuss Week One of the *Serving Sacrificially* study.

Here is your assignment.

WEEKLY FOCUS

This week we will . . .

- **EXPLORE:** Ephesians 1:4-11
- **READ:** *The Purpose Driven Life*, Day Two: "You Are Not An Accident"
- **REFLECT:** On God's Epic Vision For Our Lives

EXPLORE

This weekend we learned that God has an epic vision for all creation—and that each of us is created to play a vital role in that vision. One of the passages we studied was **Ephesians 1:4-11. Read this passage again in God's Word translation (GW).** (You can find this on the YouVersion Bible app or at biblegateway.com). As you read, **jot down any key words or phrases in your journal that stand out to you.** Then answer the questions below.

1) If you had to summarize this entire passage in just a sentence or two, what would you say? Also, what key words did you jot down and why?

2) This weekend we talked about the difference between

"head" knowledge and "heart" knowledge. In this passage, we are told all Christ-followers are part of God's epic plan. Does this feel true to you? Why or why not? If you struggle to believe this, what are some of the things that might be holding you back?

READ

Read Day Two in *The Purpose Driven Life*, "You Are Not An Accident" (pp. 26-30). If you are using Kindle or Audible, you can find Day 2 in the Table of Contents (Kindle) or in the Chapters (Audible).

REFLECT

1) What emotions does this excerpt of *The Purpose Driven Life* evoke? Write down at least five descriptive words as to how this section makes you feel.

2) In the message this weekend, Pastor Michael described a hypothetical "conversation" in the mind of King David in the Bible. King David's journey was unusual, starting as a shepherd boy and ending as the king of Israel. However, most of us can relate to his experience: **Life does not always turn out the way we expect.** What are some of the unexpected twists and turns has your life taken? Can you see God's hand in those events?

3) Write a prayer in your journal asking God to help you:

- Understand His vision for all creation and the role He created you to play in it
- Realize how intimately involved He is in your life
- Discover His plans for your life

Then re-read Psalm 139 (from the weekend message) and pray over each verse for your life.