

## 1 Peter: Shaped by the Gospel

# # 3: "A living building"

### The Message

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#### Introduction

##### Introduction to the series

Formed by the gospel: the gospel change who we are, and calls us to live according to our new identity.

Today, we will look at the question: how does the gospel shape our purpose in life?

##### Idea of the message

The Gospel shapes us by: drawing us to Jesus, making us love and appreciate Jesus, being formed into a living building with Jesus, so that together we help others to come to Jesus.

### The Message

What is	What could be
<p><b>We look for purpose</b> by nature, we look for purpose: to justify our existence, to answer the question: what does my life mean).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some by following the rules (of a religion or their own moral code)</li><li>• Others by enjoying life (by breaking the rules)</li><li>• Some in family</li><li>• Others in work</li><li>• Some by doing important things</li><li>• Others by seeking to experience pleasure</li><li>• Some by doing projects</li><li>• Others by being with people/in relationships</li></ul>	<p><b>The gospel gives us purpose</b></p> <p>It leads us to justify our existence - to seek and find meaning in life by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coming to and loving Jesus</li><li>• Being part of something bigger</li><li>• Helping others come to Jesus</li></ul> <p>Most of the time, this doesn't happen....</p>
<p><b>Religion = saved and well behaved</b></p> <p>We think that religion has to do with being saved and being good</p> <p>This doesn't give us purpose, anymore than having house insurance gives us purpose</p>	<p><b>Come to Jesus</b></p> <p>Actually, in its essence, the gospel makes us come to Jesus</p> <p>1 Peter 2.4 It is the definition of being a Christian: to come to</p>

	<p>Jesus</p> <p>1 Peter 2:5 In him we find our righteousness before God</p> <p>But then, Peter identifies the problem with this definition of "christian"...</p>
<p><b>Jesus is not neutral</b></p> <p>You can talk about God, and nobody gets offended</p> <p>But Jesus is different, he causes strong reactions</p>	<p><b>hate or love</b></p> <p>1 Peter 2:6-8</p> <p>We love him the gospel (our salvation, the grace of God) makes us love Jesus</p> <p>Some people hate him or offended by him</p> <p>Some are attracted, others are repelled</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for him, his call, his authority</li> </ul> <p>So, we come to and love Jesus, but I still don't see my purpose...</p>
<p><b>Individual Relationship</b></p> <p>So far, it seems to be an individual relationship</p> <p>Between God and me. That's why we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jump from church to church</li> <li>• live isolated during the week</li> </ul>	<p><b>Part of God, part of his body</b></p> <p>The same gospel that draws us to Jesus, joins us with all other followers of him</p> <p>1 Peter 2:9a</p> <p>But, what does it mean to "be part of his body"? For most, church is....</p>
<p><b>A social activity</b></p> <p>We see being "part of the church" as a social activity (Sundays)</p>	<p><b>Living building</b></p> <p>What it really means, is that we are formed into a living building</p> <p>1 Peter 2:4-6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• living building</li> <li>• example: A casino in Las Vegas</li> <li>• Jesus is the foundation</li> </ul> <p>Where's my purpose in all of this?</p>

<p><b>Give to me and take care of me</b></p> <p>We assume that the purpose of the church is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to give me what I need</li> <li>• Taking care of me</li> <li>• be like what I like</li> </ul> <p>Christians are famous for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• complaining</li> <li>• criticizing</li> <li>• Demanding</li> </ul>	<p><b>Attracting others to Jesus</b></p> <p>The real purpose of this is that together we bring others to Jesus</p> <p>1 Peter 2:5, 9-12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We love him, he is precious to us</li> <li>• We have received his mercy</li> <li>• He has changed us</li> </ul> <p>This is attractive Like the casinos in Las Vegas call our attention</p> <p>So, if x, y, and z are true, what should we do?</p>
<p><b>Next Step</b></p> <p>Christian Love Jesus more (read John) Being in community (participate in community group) Lead others to Jesus other (study My Next Step, I want peace with God)</p> <p>Non-Christian: Come to Jesus, love Jesus Repent and be baptized, enter this relationship with Jesus</p>	<p><b>What will happen</b></p> <p>Your life will have purpose</p> <p>By coming to Jesus, loving Jesus, being built into the living building with Jesus and by bring others to Jesus, your life will have much meaning, eternal meaning.</p>

### Communion

We celebrate the person to whom we've come; not a service, meeting, church, or group, but to Jesus