

ON PURPOSE- Week 3: Who Am I?

This week of our On Purpose Study will be focusing on our students asking themselves, “Who am I that I can help fulfill God’s will in whatever it is He’s asking me to do?” “What do I even have to offer, especially at my age?” “How could God possibly use me, especially if I don’t have the talent or skills necessary?” It can be hard enough for us to feel we know the purpose God has for life, but even when we do, the natural response can be one of doubt in ourselves being able to accomplish that purpose. We will be looking at three *un* words from the life of Moses and identify how they may have crept into our lives as well: Unworthy, Unimportant, and Unknown. As we look at these, we’ll also be helping them see that even at a young age, they too can make an incredible difference in moving the Gospel of Jesus Christ forward!

Has anyone ever asked you to help with a job and you wanted to say, “Yes, I’ll help!” But you had no experience or knowledge in what they wanted you to do? How did that make you feel? Did you help them anyway? And if so, how did it turn out?

Was there ever a time when someone you knew, but didn’t think they knew you, called you by your name? How did that make you feel?

We’re going to explore two people in the Bible to see how they answered God’s call to action even when they didn’t feel confident in themselves to do that.

Anything stand out in the video we watched together?

Read Exodus 3:11 and 4:1-9

- In verse 3:11, read the “Who am I...” statement putting the emphasis on the word I. Who am I?
 - Do you think Moses really wanted to lead the people out of Egypt?
 - Do you think he was scared? Lazy? Had other things to do?
 - Do you ever feel like Moses did? Do you too jump to some kind of excuse right away?
- Let’s look at three *un* words that Moses seemed to think about himself...
 - **Unworthy.** In verse 4:1, why do you think Moses thought the people would not believe him? How did God respond to that?
 - Do you ever feel that people will not want to listen to you or not believe you?
 - **Unimportant** – In verse 4:10, what excuse was Moses using to not do what God wanted him to do?
 - Did it hit home in the video when Mike asked us to fill in the blank, “I am just a _____.” What is that for you?
 - **Unknown.** Dwight L Moody was once quoted as saying “Moses spent forty years thinking he was somebody; forty years discovering he was nobody; and forty years discovering what God can do with a nobody.”
 - Do we have to be “famous” to accomplish God’s will? Do we have to have a million followers on Tik Tok? Can we make a difference in this world even if no one knows who we are? How are ways YOU can do that?

Read I Timothy 4:12

- Timothy was a young church leader in a seemingly wise and experienced church setting. So consequently he struggled to be respected even though he as a gifted speaker & preacher.
 - Do you ever feel like the world is telling you you're too young?
- As Paul was coaching Timothy, he did not tell him to fight back, work harder, teach deeper lessons, or grow up; he simply told him to set an example!
 - What were the five ways Paul told Timothy to set an example?
 - What are some examples YOU can leave a mark in those five ways:
 - Your speech
 - Your conduct
 - Your love
 - Your faith
 - Your purity

Summary: Have you ever really looked closely at a stained glass window? It's a beautiful picture made of many pieces of broken glass. God can take each of our broken lives and together, make an incredibly beautiful picture of what it's like to follow Jesus Christ. In both stories we read tonight, Moses and Timothy overcame obstacles and self-doubt: Moses with feeling inadequate because of his inability to speak eloquently and possibly having a speech impediment, and Timothy feeling he was too young.

The Point: Simply put, when God asks you to do something, He will give you what you need when you need it.

- This week, seek to find an answer to your "I am just a _____."
- What is one way you can live on purpose this week?
- Sometimes God's plan in your life is to use your weaknesses for His glory. Take time this week to think about what weakness He may want you to use to help someone who is struggling through the same weakness.