



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Dirty Gospel – Part 3
Pastor Ricky Texada
Sunday June 3, 2018

Main Idea – God has given each of us a purpose in life. In order to understand that purpose, we must get close to God so we can hear from Him. The purpose we receive from God is designed to help others, so that glory is brought to Him.

Life is dirty

- The reality of life is: life is dirty.
- Therefore, working with the Gospel message will require us to become involved with the “dirtiness” of life.
- God has a special mission for each of us because He values us.
- It is essential each of us finds out our God-given purpose in life.
- Myles Munroe – “The greatest tragedy in life is not death, but a life without a purpose.”
- Jesus was forceful and direct when it came to accomplishing his own purpose on earth at that time.
- **Matthew 21: 12-13 – Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. And He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’ “ NKJV**
- Jesus proclaimed the importance of prayer in the fulfillment of God’s purpose.

Your purpose is fueled (generated) by prayer

- We pray because:
 1. Prayer is the power generator in our lives.
 - a) E.M. Bounds – “Little prayer, little power. Much prayer, much power.”
 - b) When things don’t seem to be working, it may be because you aren’t praying enough.
 - c) **James 5: 16-18 – Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person *has great power* and produces wonderful results. Elijah was a human as we are, and yet when he prayed earnestly that no rain would fall, none fell for three and a half years! Then, when he prayed again, the sky sent down rain and the earth began to yield its crops. NLT**

- d) Prayer will help you discover your purpose. The more you get connected to your purpose, the more you will have to stay connected to God through prayer.
 - e) Prayer is simply having a conversation with God. He understands how you talk and communicate. Simply talk to Him like you would another person.
2. Prayer brings us into the presence of God.
- a) Being in the presence of greatness is inspiring.
 - b) Psalm 25:14 – God-friendship is for God-worshippers; they are the ones he confides in. MSG**
 - c) Revelation 3:20 – Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. NKJV**
 - d) Philippians 3:14 – I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. NKJV**
3. Prayer is the conduit through which God’s plan is implemented on the earth.
- a) God has chosen to use us to implement His plan on the earth.
 - b) God’s resource is never depleted as He uses us.
 - c) Daniel 9 describes the earnest devotion the prophet Daniel had for prayer. God responded to Daniel’s earnest prayer by giving him perspective, and an understanding of his own purpose as part of God’s greater purpose.**
 - d) F.B. Meyer – “The greatest tragedy in life is not unanswered prayer, but unoffered prayer.”

Purpose is transmitted by passion

- If prayer is the engine that generates a purpose, then passion is what transmits that purpose into the environment.
- **John 2: 13-17 – Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen, and poured out the changers’ money and overturned the tables. And He said to those who sold doves, “Take these things away! Do not make My Father’s house a house of merchandise!” Then His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up.” NKJV**
- We must be passionate – and must express that passion – as we work out our God-given purpose.

Purpose is connected to people

- We are given a purpose so other people can be blessed.
- God's blessings flow through us to others.
- God will use our life's experiences to bless others.
- **Luke 19:10 – for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost. NKJV**
- **Luke 5: 32 – I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance. NKJV**
- Just as Jesus came as a servant, so are we to have a mind toward serving others.
- **John 13: 3-5 & 12-17 – Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. . . . So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them." NKJV**
- **James 1:27 – Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you. NLT**
- **Matthew 25: 37-40 – "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!' NLT**

The Gospel will clean dirty situations

- The Gospel message – and the love that accompanies that message – is the perfect answer for people who are living in dirty, messy situations.
- It is our responsibility and purpose to deliver that message.

Reflective Questions for Dirty Gospel – Part 3

1. Pastor Ricky said that prayer generates powerful purpose, and then passion transmits that purpose. He used the analogy of a car's engine and transmission. Did you understand that analogy? If so, can you restate the analogy in your own words?
2. Do you feel you have a purpose in life? If so, is that purpose centered on helping other people receive God's blessings? If not, is it possible you might be missing God's intended purpose for your life?
3. If you would like to re-establish a connection to God's purpose for your life, is there anything in Pastor Ricky's message that tells you how to do that?

