

# Aligning Ourselves with God's Purpose

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The 2<sup>nd</sup> from St. Paul to the Romans states, “We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. The old Baltimore Catechism in its questions and answer format goes to the core of such purpose, “Why did God make you? God made me to know Him, to love Him and serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him forever in next.” God has placed us in this world and at this time for a reason. Our duty is to understand that reason and find our purpose. The Baltimore Catechism put the purpose as – knowledge (understanding), love and service. We know who God is, “Love” therefore, we are called to love him back and service becomes as an outcome of love not simply an ordered duty or chorus.

King Solomon asks God for wisdom and understanding in order to be true servant leader of his chosen people and God granted him more than what he had asked. King Solomon’s request was a genuine need to fulfil his purpose as a young king. Jesus asks us to set our priority right, aligning our purpose with that of God, “Seek the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides” (Matt. 6:33). Jesus highlights the priority we need to give to God’s purpose, using examples of treasure, pearls and other valuable things we would do everything in our power to possess them.

God’s purpose primarily is our wellbeing, achieved reciprocity of love. God first loved us, and our response is love him back. St. Augustine wrote, “Inasmuch as love grows in **you**, in so much beauty grows; for love is itself the beauty **of** the soul. Once for all, then, a short precept is given thee: Love, and do what thou wilt.” Whatever we do, especially serving our brothers and sisters is an expression of love in line with God’s purpose.

The Gospel also gives us a challenge to be knowledgeable of his word in the scriptures, “Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household, who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old.” Through our faith and the Church, we are equipped to understand and reflect on the scriptures about our unique purpose in life – understand, love and serve.