



United Pentecostal Church Intl April 2023



## Why am I Here?

by Melodie Showalter



Why am I here?

It's a question that rings in the mind of most people at least once in their life. Usually, it's at a point of great contemplation, questioning the purpose of one's entire existence. Why am I here? What is my purpose? What is my potential? Is there meaning to my life? Other times we ask it in a different way when we find ourselves in the middle of a struggle, a trial, perhaps a devastation of some sort. Why am I here, in this situation? Why am I in this place, or even this calling?

Every time, the answer lies in this: you are here for the greatest purpose of all, to meet the best possible potential you have, and that is to be a dedicated pray-er, a person of prayer. As a child of God, therein lies our highest calling, therein lies our

purpose, and nothing great comes about without it.

I've had opportunity to share this thought several times. At some point in their young lives, each of my five wonderful children has come to me and described a deep desire to do really big things for God. Being young and unsure what their specific "calling" is at that time, they have dreams and hopes of doing something large-scale and grand; they aspire to do something that calls for massive sacrifice and yields tremendous visible results. And I'm thankful for that desire in them; I believe that's normal. But what I want them to know and understand is that prayer has the highest value and is the ultimate high calling.

If the occasion arises that you feel unimportant, unskilled, untalented, unseen – remember this: God values prayer tremendously. He sees it every single time. Notice He didn't say His house would be called a house of skilled piano playing, or a house of great orators. He said it would be called a house of prayer. He didn't say He'd grant favor and bestow blessings upon those who humbled themselves and preached great crusades or planned great events. He said He would do that for those who will humble themselves and pray, and seek His face. (II Chronicles 7:14) Does prayer sometimes result in incredible God-bestowed talents and abilities and power-moments? Absolutely! Other times its results cannot be seen and will never be known. But we must understand that the foundation of all great things is prayer.

When people come to me wanting to do something big for God, I beg them to apply themselves to prayer. The greatest need in the church is to have more people being effective, consistent, fervent pray-ers. Those are easily the MVPs of any church, any revival, any great success story. If you want to find your purpose and live up to your full potential, become a person dedicated to prayer.

"If my people, which are called by my name, will humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14

"The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16

Note: Melodie Showalter lives in Kirksville, MO where she serves alongside her husband pastoring Landmark Pentecostal Church. Her time is happiest spent with her husband and children, enjoying farm life, travel, and the blessings of Kingdom work.

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## Purpose and Potential

By Mary Catherine Beek



I can remember being at youth camps and youth rallies when I was a teenager and there was always a sermon, workshop or Q&A panel on how to find your purpose or knowing your purpose. When you are that age, I thought, I'll worry about that when I'm older. I don't need to know that now. I was probably more focused on what my friends were doing or what was happening at the after burner.

Looking back I can honestly say, I really wish I would have understood the importance of knowing my purpose from as young as I could. We can have specific callings and purposes in life that is unique to you but there is one purpose we need and that is a foundational walk with God. We need to purpose in our lives to study His word and to seek His face on a daily basis. This is how we unlock the potential in our lives. Wasted potential is a choice that we make ourselves. No one else is to blame for it. We make the choice not seek Him daily and have that connection with Him. We shift our priorities to seek connection from other people and things, when we need to place Him first every day.

>> Don't know where to start? Start small. Take time at the start of your day to either read or listen to His word then meditate on it. Let Him speak to you through His word and dwell on it throughout your day. Tomorrow, there will be a fresh word for that day. This may sound very basic and simplistic but I have found that sometimes its the simple things that can be easily overlooked or forgotten.

When we make this a conscience decision in our lives to have this purpose, our potential grows for His kingdom.

Jeremiah 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Make it a priority to seek Him and search for Him with all your heart. In this, your purpose and potential will be revealed to you.

Note: Mary Catherine Beek is wife of James and mom to Cayla, Alexa and Isla. Together they are missionaries to the UK & Channel Islands and live in Glasgow Scotland. They oversee a local work and preaching points. She is involved with the music ministry locally and nationally. She has a passion for the things of God and it is always her desire to continue to grow in life, family, walk and most of all purpose.

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From the Editor



God is doing mighty things!


God is opening many doors and this newsletter is now available in:  
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Our Mission . . . We are committed to the spiritual preservation of this generation and beyond and the spiritual restoration of previous generations.

Our Need . . . Committed women who will join together on the first Monday of each month and pray focused prayer for their children.

Three Priorities of Prayer...

- The salvation of our children (Isaiah 49:25; Psalm 144:12; Isaiah 43:5-6).
- That they take ownership of the faith at an accountable age (1 John 2:25-28; James 1:25).
- That they enter into the ministry of the Lord's harvest (Matthew 9:38).