

You Were Made To Make Much Of God | The Pillar | Part 5

1 Timothy 1:15-17

What you do every day.....what you think, what you do, your goals, how you use your gifts and abilities, etc....it all begins with 'why were you made?' The 'fruit' of your life must be attached to the 'root' of your life. The ultimate purpose for your life...the gut level 'why do I exist' is supposed to be the foundation for how existence is lived out. If not, there are problems. Small groups, homes, churches and counseling offices are full of folks who are struggling to live out in experience the fundamental purpose for why they exist in the first place. We were made to make much of God. Once that is believed, all else is just worship.

1. What is the problem with us saying that our basic purpose for existing is to be good examples to others and to 'give back' what has been given to us? What is missing in that statement and why are not even able to do that in ourselves?
2. Why is global missions and worldwide disciple-making important to God? What is His ultimate purpose? How does today's message challenge your thoughts of missions either by motivating you further or by changing your perspective on God's purpose of missions?
3. What does it mean that God saves us from Himself? Why do we need to be saved from God? What do we and others typically want saved from? What is often the motivation for wanting to be saved? How would 'being saved from God Himself' change our perspective in evangelism and encouraging others to repent and believe?
4. If Paul's entrance into making much of God and being about His glory came through a deep realization of his offensiveness to a holy God, what can be said of us if we do not make much of God in our daily existence? What might we be missing?
5. How would you cultivate a deepening realization of your own sin? Do you think this will come from playing video games, enjoying hours on Facebook, watching movies or a constant diet of sports? What activities might you involve yourself in if you want to see yourself as the chief of sinners that will propel you to run to His grace?
6. Paul could have easily camped out in self-condemnation instead of using His past to illuminate God's glory. What is at the core of self-condemnation and clinging to it instead of clinging to the grace lavished upon us that is supposed to cut the cords of condemnation?
7. So, if your sin can be a catalyst to make much of God's glory and God can use it to draw attention to Himself, what can be said of your worst circumstances, your worst trials, your worst failures and weaknesses? Can they be catalysts for you to make much of Jesus? How would that change your perspective? How might that perspective change actually draw others to Jesus through you instead of repel them if you are being ungrateful, whining and discontent in your hard circumstances?
8. What decisions will you make today to make much of God? What is He putting His finger on in your life so that your life becomes a voice for His glory?