



What do you think of the phrase: “The two most important days in a person’s life is the day you were born and the day you discovered why”?

- *The need for purpose is one the defining characteristics of human beings. Human beings crave purpose and suffer serious psychological difficulties when we don’t have it. Purpose is a fundamental component of a fulfilling life.*

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/out-the-darkness/201307/the-power-purpose>

John 15:1-8 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Where and how do we seek to find our life’s purpose?

- *“Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.” — Augustine of Hippo, Confessions*

1. _____ in Jesus!

- *Hosea 10:1 Israel was a spreading vine; he brought forth fruit for himself. As his fruit increased, he built more altars; as his land prospered, he adorned his sacred stones. 2 Their heart is deceitful, and now they must bear their guilt. The Lord will demolish their altars and destroy their sacred stones.*
- *John 15:7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.*

2. _____ by the Father!

Why is pruning difficult? Why does it work?

What pruning have you experienced? What is the result?

3. _____ fruit of the Spirit!

- *6 If anyone does not remain in me, ...*
 - *Galatians 5:19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*
- *4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. ...*
 - *22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

Your life’s purpose: _____!

- *John 15: 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last.*
- *1 Corinthians 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.*