

# Forty Days of Purpose Devotional

## Day 7 "It's all for Him."

In order to avoid confusion (and Satan just LOVES confusion), we must remain focused on the idea of LOVE. God loves us and designed us out of love. God did not create human beings and then demand that we give Him glory whether we are able or not, or whether we like it or not. He created us in such a way that knowing and living according to our purpose simultaneously gives Him glory, makes Him happy, and makes us as happy as we can possibly be. Now, consider what happens to a person when they are totally "in love". If "worship" is expressed when a person has no greater delight than to contemplate and be in the presence of the beloved, then worship comes naturally to someone who is in love. People in love often overflow with joy and love, so much so that it spills out on everyone around them (there is an old tune that features the words "and I love everybody since I fell in love with you"). This affection for others results, when appropriate, in acts of service. When someone is in love, they not only love to tell everyone about their beloved, but it is often difficult to get them to talk about anything else. All the ways in which we glorify God come naturally to one who is in love with Him. But how does "falling in love with God" happen? In order to fall in love with God we must "see" Him, and Jesus clearly explains how that happens:

*"In reply Jesus declared, 'I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.' 'How can a man be born when he is old?' Nicodemus asked. 'Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!' Jesus answered, 'I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.'"* (John 3:3-6 [NIV])

But "seeing" once does not support a lifetime of love. Having seen, we must continue to gaze. The world offers many distractions, and a life in which God is only glanced at occasionally will produce a relationship no more satisfying than such behavior would produce in a marriage. Have you ever noticed that married couples that have shared years of married love and intimacy resemble one another? We must FOCUS on Him in order to really love Him, and we must love Him in order to glorify Him.

- God loves you, and longs for you to love Him to the point of "being in love" with Him.
- Being in love, you will long for nothing more than to glorify Him, and will experience your greatest joy as you do so.
- Only by receiving the Holy Spirit through faith is it possible to fall in love with God.

Ask yourself how much your life glorifies God. If those things that glorify God are not sources of joy, forcing yourself to do them anyway will not cause them to become delightful to you – probably, the opposite will occur. Confess to God that you are not truly in love with Him, and ask Him to reveal His beauty, His tenderness, His kindness, His gentleness and His LONGING FOR YOU. Ask Him to reveal Jesus to you more and more, because He is the visible expression of all these things.

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