



**MON 8-29**

- ▼ **SCRIPTURE**
- ▼ **THOUGHT**

**1 Corinthians 12:7**

"A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other." [NLT]  
There is unity and diversity in the body of Christ, known as the church. We each have a specific part to play for the body to function the way it was intended to. Spend a few moments thinking about the ways you are currently helping the body of Christ function.

- ▼ **PRAYER**

**Precious Jesus, I want to play my part and contribute to your church so that together, we can make a difference in people's lives. Help me to clarify and focus on how you would like me to be an influence. Amen.**

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**TUES 8-30**

- ▼ **SCRIPTURE**
- ▼ **THOUGHT**

**Colossians 3:23-24**

"Whatever you do, do it from the heart for the Lord and not for people. You know that you will receive an inheritance as a reward. You serve the Lord Christ." [CEB] What motivates you to help others? These verses remind us that our motive as Christians is to do all that we do for the Lord. When we keep this in mind, it helps us to serve willingly and with no expectation of recognition from people. Our true reward is eternal and in Christ alone!

- ▼ **PRAYER**

**Lord Jesus, sometimes I forget to check my motives. It is easy to become dependent on others for praise. You are the one I want to please, so I offer my abilities and time for your purposes. Amen.**

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**WED 8-31**

- ▼ **SCRIPTURE**
- ▼ **THOUGHT**

**Proverbs 2:3-5**

"...indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God." [NIV] Insight from God is precious and we should make it our priority to seek it whenever we can!

- ▼ **PRAYER**

**God of wisdom, I need you. As I search for my purpose and reorganize my life around the things that matter to you, give me your insight. Thank you for making me uniquely gifted to share your great love with others. Amen.**

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**THURS 9-1**

▼ **SCRIPTURE** Proverbs 19:21

▼ **THOUGHT** "Many plans are in a person's mind, but the LORD's purpose will succeed." [CEB] Our plans make the most sense when they align with God's purposes! We must listen for God's voice of wisdom as we decide our next steps so that we stay on track with how we are using our energy and resources.

▼ **PRAYER** Holy God, I lay my plans at your feet. Examine my heart and help me see where a realignment is needed. I recognize that every breath is a gift, and I want to make every moment of my life count. Amen.

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**FRI 9-2**

▼ **SCRIPTURE** Matthew 5:16

▼ **THOUGHT** "In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father." [NLT] When you consider your purpose in life, this is a great verse to keep in mind. Whatever we do, we do it to bring God glory. Each of us has an important and unique role to fill in that larger purpose! How will you shine your light today?

▼ **PRAYER** God, I want today to make a difference for someone. Show me an opportunity to be your light for someone. Remind me to slow down, look around, and be ready to act. Amen.

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**SAT 9-3**

▼ **SCRIPTURE** 1 Peter 2:9

▼ **THOUGHT** "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." [NIV] We were born to declare God's praises! Think of the things that you do week to week. When you are showing love to others, you are declaring God's praises. Is there room for more?

▼ **PRAYER** Glorious God, thank you for being the light in my life. You have blessed me in so many ways, and I want to show my gratitude each day. Thank you for the hope I have in Christ. Amen.

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# DIGGING DEEPER

▼ **Intro**      **We live in a noisy culture. Whether it's the tv, cell phone, or social media, we are constantly bombarded with voices. Most of these voices are suggesting that we do something. If we want to listen to God and respond, we must first adjust our surroundings.**

▼ **Reflect**

- When you spend time with God, do you spend more time talking or listening? Why?
- What things in our lives distract us most from hearing from God?
- Read 1 Samuel 3:1-10 aloud.
  - Why do you think the Lord called to Samuel, the boy, instead of Eli, the priest?
  - How did Samuel's surroundings help him hear from God?
  - If you decided to commit yourself to listening to God on a daily basis, what distractions would you need to eliminate?
  - What is keeping you from making some tough decisions about your schedule and habits to allow for this time?
- As Christ followers, we have an inherent clear purpose of loving others, but we each have our own unique, God-given abilities and individual roles to play. We must regularly listen to God to truly understand who we were created to be. Do you feel you have a good handle on this? Why or why not?
- Personal vision statements help us connect the small decisions in our lives to our larger purpose. It helps clarify our "why." Consider spending time with God, specifically, considering your personal values, strengths, and goals. Write a vision statement, knowing it may be a work in progress.

▼ **Prayer**      **Loving creator, thank you for creating me with intent. I want to discover more about my specific part in your wonderful plans to show love to the world. Help me make time to connect with you and better understand you and myself. Give me the courage to act on what I learn. Amen.**



# DIGGING DEEPER

▼ What did I learn? \_\_\_\_\_  
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▼ How might it apply in my life? \_\_\_\_\_  
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▼ What is a next step I can take? \_\_\_\_\_  
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