Pursuing Purpose
Jonathan Cleveland
Luke 3, 4, & 5
August 23, 2020

## **Reflection & Discussion Questions**

### Life can feel paused right now and that is surprisingly exhausting

This is the sort of fatigue that can only be cured by PURPOSE.

\*What has been put on hold for you in the past several months? How are you feeling fatigued or exhausted?

## The only thing worth giving your life to is the thing Jesus gave his life to

As people of Jesus, we give ourselves first and foremost to God's Kingdom.

\*What other things do you find yourself giving your life to?

\*What happens when we put our deep human longings on things like career, family, spouse, etc?

## The Kingdom Life is about IDENTITY

We are deeply loved and God is 'well pleased' with our existence.

Read and discuss Luke 3:22 and Romans 8:1 (ESV)

<sup>22</sup>"You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased."

1...there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

\*What do these verses say about identity?

\*How do you get and stay secure in your identity in Christ? Where do you struggle to accept your secure identity?

\*How does a secure identity help us approach the brokenness of the world?

#### The Kingdom Life is about VICTORY

He longs to help us overcome the sin and broken ways that so easily entangle us.

Read and discuss Luke 4:13 and Romans 7:24-25(ESV)

<sup>13</sup>And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

<sup>24</sup>...Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? <sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God who delivers me through Christ Jesus our Lord.

\*What do these verses say about victory?

\*What places have you found victory? What brokenness is he working to replace with wholeness?

\*How does experiencing victory help us approach the brokenness of the world?

#### The Kingdom Life is about the KINGDOM

Other people moving tangibly and incrementally closer to the dream God has for every human. Read and discuss Luke 4:18-19(ESV)

<sup>18</sup>The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

# The Kingdom Life is about PARTNERING

We develop relationships centered on the project we give our lives to together. Read and discuss Luke 5:10(ESV)

<sup>10</sup>'Do not be afraid, from now on you will be catching men.'

\*What does this verse say about partners?

\*What is the difference between partnership and friendship or community? What characteristics does a partner have?

\*Where have you experienced a partnership relationship? How was it strengthened by purpose?

The Kingdom of God cannot be cancelled...it is never postponed...it is never closed Identity, Victory, Kingdom, Partners. It is the only thing worth giving your life to.

\*Is there one of these words you are skipping over? Which one might you be neglecting?

\*How will you discover this Kingdom Life purpose anew this year? Where will you Gather? Where will you Go Out?

Visual reflection (Visio Divina)\* Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven by Salvador Dali Song for reflection For the Sake of the World by Bethel Music

\*Visio divina – a thoughtful and slow way of contemplating a visual prompt like a piece of art, photograph or image and inviting God to speak to you through it. First, focus on the detail that your eyes are drawn to right away – keep focus there and pay attention to what thoughts and emotions you are having. Then, look at the entire image and consider it as a whole, being aware of thoughts, questions and emotions it provokes. End in silence and prayer, considering your experience and anything you feel called to respond to.

<sup>\*</sup>What do these verses say about the Kingdom?

<sup>\*</sup>What does it mean for the Kingdom to be about action and not opinion?

<sup>\*</sup>How do we participate in ushering in life for others, especially those on the outside? How does humility play into how we leverage our lives for the betterment of others?