

# Finding Your WHY



## Complete Study Guide Package

### **Sermon #1 –Your WHY in Action**

**Romans 12:14-21**

January 08, 2018

#### **The Importance of the Golden Circle**

Many people are living an unfulfilled life and simply are drifting aimlessly through life. As you begin looking at the idea of the Golden Circle then you begin to realize that about 95% of people live life in pursuit of their WHAT, 4% of people live in pursuit of HOW, but only 1% live in pursuit of God's WHY for their life.

**WHY** – This is God's purpose for your life. It is developed by Biblical beliefs and values serving to give you clarity in making decisions and living life on purpose.

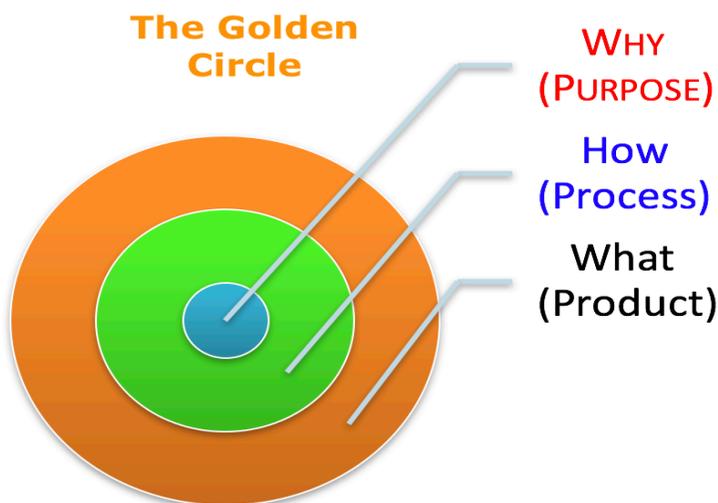
- What does living a fulfilled life look like for you?
- What do you believe is God's purpose for your life? (The WHY)

**HOW** – This is the process of how you live out your WHY. Every individual may live out his or her purpose in a different manner but it must always honor the Lord.

- How are you being purposeful in living a life that honors the Lord?
- How are you being intentional about growing in your understanding of God's Word?
- How does this growth help you discover and live out God's WHY for your life?

**WHAT** – This is the product of your life. Biblically you may know this as the fruit of your life. It is results of how you live your everyday life. Most people spend most of their life focused on this stage and never get to the WHY.

- What are the things in life that you need to eliminate in order to spend more purposeful time with the Lord?
- What are the everyday distractions in your life that distracts you from God's purpose and plan for your life?



### Examine Text – Romans 12:14-21

Read the main text from the sermon and reflect on the key words, phrases, and lessons that God is teaching us.

- What are the key lessons that you learn from this text results of living out God's purpose for your life?
- What do you learn about principles of faithfulness in these verses?

### Personalize Truth

How can you be more focused on God's purpose for your life this week?

- **Lesson #1 – Discover Your WHY**
- **Lesson #2 – Boldly Live Out Your WHY**

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# Sermon #2 – Developing a Life that Pursues Your WHY

**Romans 12:3-8**

January 14, 2018



**HOW?**

## The Messy Middle

Are you ready to live a fulfilled life? As we travel through this series, we are asking this question to prompt you to begin a journey of “Finding Your Why.” As we learned last week, every person is in one of three stages of life:

**Stage #1** – Living Out Your Why (Your God Given Purpose)

**Stage #2** – Living Out Your How (The Process of Living Your Purpose – What You Think, See, and Hear)

**Stage #3** – Living Out Your What (The Product of Your Life)

- Which stage in life are you in today?
- How can you move from Stage #3 to Stage #1?

If you want to live a fulfilled life then ultimately you want to begin living in Stage #1 where you discover “Your God Given WHY.” Once you know “Your WHY” then it serves as a filter for as to how you view the world around you or otherwise you move to the “HOW Stage” which affects...

**How You Think**

**What You See**

**What You Say**

- What does it mean for Your WHY to serve as a filter for how you view the world?
- How does your WHY effect “How You Think, What You See, and What You Say?”

The “HOW Stage” is commonly known as the “Messy Middle” because it often takes you out of your comfort zone and into uncharted territory that forces you to ask the hard questions:

- What do I need to change to get my life on the right track?
- What obstacles are keeping me from living out my “WHY”?

As you begin living out “Your WHY” then you will find that it serves as a Compass in life. This is known as God’s 3C Compass because “Your WHY” brings Clarity, Courage, and Certainty as you live life for God’s Purpose.



- How does “Your WHY” bring you Clarity, Courage, and Certainty as you live life?
- How can you apply the principles from this message in everyday life?

**Examine Text** – Romans 12:3-8

Read the main text from the sermon and reflect on the key words, phrases, and lessons that God is teaching us.

- What are the key lessons that you learn from this text results of living out God’s purpose for your life?
- What do you learn about principles of clarity, courage, and certainty in these verses?

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Sermon #3 – Mission Discovery

**Romans 12:9-13**

January 21, 2018

### Different Seasons of Your WHY

Each of us goes through different seasons of our life. The author of Ecclesiastes summed up the transitions of life in this manner,

**Ecclesiastes 3:1** – For everything there is a season,  
and a time for every matter under heaven...

As we go through different seasons of life, we must recognize that many times our WHY will change during that season. Your WHY as a teenager may be different than your WHY as a college student. Your WHY as a parent may be various than your WHY as a grandparent. The point is that God has appointed us to carry out different tasks during different seasons of life which is WHY we must continually seek to discover and live out our WHY on a regular basis. This is known as the different seasons of your WHY.

If you want to continually live a fulfilled life for the glory of God then you must make sure that you regularly seek to live out your WHY. This does not have to be a difficult process, and it can begin in the everyday, ordinary activities that you live out. Jim Rohn summed this principle up in this manner as he observed,

Success is a few simple disciplines, practiced every day; while failure is simply a few errors in judgment, repeated every day. –Jim Rohn

If you are ready to begin living out, your WHY then starts by implementing this basic four-step process of finding your WHY.

### Four Steps of Finding Your WHY



#### Step #1 – Clarify Your Core Values

Your life that you are living right now is the result of the choices you have made up to this point. These choices, both big and small, have been driven by your core values and core beliefs. What you value is ultimately what you will pursue. Bill George once observed,

Leaders are defined by their values, and values are personal—they cannot be determined by anyone else...The values of authentic leaders are shaped by their personal beliefs and developed through study, introspection, consultation with others, and years of experience. (Bill George, *True North*. xxxii)

**What are Core Values?** Core Values are the constant, passionate, biblical core beliefs that go deep to empower and guide you in life. Core values drive and guide you like a ship out on the high seas sailing toward some port. Identifying your Core Values will help you begin living out your WHY with intentionality.

Identify your Core Values by asking these questions...

- What values do I cherish most in life? (Examples: Honesty, Integrity, Truth)
- What values do I live out on a daily basis?

- What values do I expect others to live out on a daily basis?
- What values define me as a Christian?

## Step #2 – Identify Your Spiritual Gifts

The second step that we examine as we seek to discover our WHY is found in discovering our spiritual gifts. The Lord has uniquely equipped every individual with specific spiritual gifts. These gifts are meant to be live out to bring glory to God. The Apostle Paul and Peter both summarize the importance of your gifts in these passages,

**1 Corinthians 12:4-7** – <sup>4</sup>Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

**1 Peter 4:10** – <sup>10</sup>As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.

It is one thing to recognize that God has gifted you with a special gift, but it is another thing to identify that gift and use it for His glory. One simple way to start identifying your gifted areas can be discovered by taking a spiritual gifts test. There are a variety of options out there today, but one of my favorites can be found free online through LifeWay. You can download this test today by going to this site...

[http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcF\\_MYCS\\_030526\\_Spiritual\\_Gifts\\_Survey.pdf](http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcF_MYCS_030526_Spiritual_Gifts_Survey.pdf)

- What are you most passionate about in your life?
- What areas do you find yourself wanting to accomplish for the Lord today?

## Step #3 – Prioritize Your Priorities

The next step that we examine is to prioritize your priorities. The people who live and lead with the most joy and contentment are those who have clarity about their priorities. They know what they do best and fill their days with more of those activities.

Decide what you want, decide what you are willing to exchange for it. Establish your priorities and go to work! – **H.L. Hunt**

The Big Question in this section that we must answer is simple: **What matters most to you?** Many people have plans for what they believe is most important for your life but you must ask whether these plans are in line with God’s Will and His Way for your life! Begin by establishing your top priorities in three areas of your life. How can you increase your growth in these areas

by 1% in the next 2 weeks. If you continue to grow 1% every two weeks then will grow in each area by a total of 26% every year...But you must begin with making your priorities a priority.

### **Area #1 – Your Relationship With God**

- Example: Study the Bible for 30 Minutes to start my day.
- Example: Pray for 30 Minutes to start my day.

### **Area #2 – Your Relationship With Your Family**

- Example: Spend 30 Minutes more with my kids each day.
- Example: Plan an intentional vacation for the family this year as a retreat.

### **Area #3 – Your Relationship With Others**

- Example: Encourage 3 people each day for the glory of God.

## **Step #4 – Chart Your Course**

The final step that we examine is found as we put our WHY into action. This is where we become intentional about charting our course over the next year. Many people do not spend much time planning out the week, month, or year but we understand that if we become more intentional about how we spend our time then we can accomplish more for God with our time.

### **Baby Steps of Developing Your Plan**

Start Here: Make it a priority to develop a plan to live out your WHY this month. Do not worry about trying to make a plan for an entire year until you have developed a plan for this month.

- What can you do to be more intentional about living out your WHY this month? (Example: Pray More, Read the Bible More, Etc...)

Next: Make it a priority to develop a plan to live out your WHY over the next 3 months.

- What areas of your life can you begin making more consistent with living out your WHY? (Example: Get up earlier, Spend less time in front of the television or on the computer)
- What big goal can you accomplish in the next 3 months that will draw you closer to living out your WHY this year? (Example: Take a one-day retreat where you spend time with the Lord alone)

Finally: Make it a priority to develop a plan to live out your WHY over the next year.

- What are the major goals that God is placing on your heart to accomplish this year as you live out your WHY? (Example: Begin leading a Bible Study, Begin serving in a ministry area that needs your skills.)

**Make Your WHY a Reality and Live the Fulfilled Life!**

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