

What is my purpose?

Rev. Michael Angel

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God's First Words in the Bible Reveals Your True Purpose.

For centuries, humanity has wrestled with the same haunting question: “Why am I here?”

In our churches we are used to hear: We are created to have fellowship with God through Jesus.

But what if your purpose is more than that?

It surfaces in quiet moments—on the morning commute, in the stillness of night—when the noise of life fades and the soul leans in for an answer.

We’ve looked everywhere: in careers that demand our best years, in relationships that offer fleeting fulfillment, in achievements that promise meaning but leave us empty.

We chase purpose like it’s a prize at the end of a race, only to find ourselves exhausted, disillusioned, and still wondering.

But what if purpose isn’t something we find, but something we receive? What if it’s not hidden in what we do, **but revealed in who we are, and whose we are?**

The answer isn't buried in the latest self-help bestseller or the next milestone of success. It's been there from the very beginning, in the first words God ever spoke over creation.

Before mission statements, ministry roles, or spiritual gifts, there is a foundational truth that shapes everything:

You were made by God, for God.

That deep ache inside you, the sense that you were made for more, isn't a flaw. It's a divine homing signal, drawing you back to your Creator.

Today, we return to Genesis 1—not just to read a story, but to rediscover the unshakable purpose written into your very existence.

1. The Problem & The Common Misconception.

The human heart was never designed to drift through life without direction. Deep down, we all sense it: we were made for something more than just managing to get through the day.

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This longing for meaning isn't a glitch—it's a feature. It's universal, echoing across cultures, centuries, and circumstances.

The 17th-century thinker Blaise Pascal called it a "God-shaped vacuum"—an infinite space inside every person that nothing temporary or earthly can truly fill.

And yet, we try. We throw our hopes into careers, relationships, achievements, and dreams, believing that this will finally be the thing that makes us feel whole.

But while these gifts from God are good, they were never meant to be the source of our purpose—only the expression of it. When we ask them to carry that weight, they buckle under the pressure.

And when they fail—as all created things eventually do—we're left feeling lost, empty, and even worthless.

Here's the truth: purpose isn't a hidden treasure we must hunt down. It's not a job description waiting to be decoded. Before God ever calls us to do something, He reveals who we are—and that identity is rooted in who He is.

So if you're weary from the search, the chase, the constant wondering—let's go back to the beginning. Not to figure out what we're supposed to do, but to rediscover who we are.

Because that's where true purpose begins.

2. The Revelation - The God Who Creates.

So let's go there together. To the very first verse of the Bible.

Genesis, chapter one, verse one.

Most of us have heard it so many times that its staggering power has been dulled by familiarity.

But I want you to listen to it again, as if for the very first time, and feel the weight of these words:

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

Pause and really think about that. This is God's grand introduction to all of humanity.

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Of all the infinite attributes He possesses, He chose to lead with this one.

He could have revealed Himself in many other ways.

He could have started with, "In the beginning, God, the All-Powerful King, reigned."

Or, "In the beginning, God, the Perfect Judge, decreed."

Or perhaps, "In the beginning, God, the All-Knowing, thought."

But He didn't. The very first thing He chooses to show us about His eternal nature is **His creative essence**.

The first verb attached to God is created.

The Hebrew name used for God here is Elohim.

This name appears over 2,500 times in the Old Testament and carries the meaning of supreme power, strength, and majestic might.

Elohim is the mighty one, the ultimate authority.

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So when the Bible opens with "In the beginning, Elohim created," it's making a monumental statement.

It's declaring that the universe did not emerge from a chaotic battle between deities, as many ancient Near Eastern myths proposed.

It didn't come from random chance or a cosmic accident. It came from the intentional, powerful, and orderly act of a single, supreme Being.

Think about what it truly means to be a Creator.

A creator is an originator. A maker. An architect. A designer.

A creator sees a formless void and envisions form.

They see darkness and imagine light. They bring order from chaos, beauty from emptiness, and life from nothingness.

The Genesis account is a breathtaking symphony of this power. God speaks, and reality rearranges itself.

"Let there be light," and light bursts forth. He separates the waters, brings forth dry land, designs intricate

vegetation, and sets the sun, moon, and stars in their precise courses.

He fills the world with teeming, vibrant life. The whole story is one of deliberate, joyful, and masterful creation.

And after each stage, He pauses, steps back, observes His work, and declares that it is "good."

This is the foundational truth we absolutely cannot afford to miss. Before God is revealed as the God of Abraham, the Lawgiver at Mount Sinai, or the Father who sends His Son—He is, first and foremost, Elohim, the Creator.

This is His opening statement to the world. He is a God who makes things. A God who builds. A God whose very nature is to bring forth newness and life.

Understanding this is the first half of the key that unlocks everything you need to know about your purpose.

3. The Connection to You - The Master Key of 'Imago Dei'.

So, God is a Creator. That's a beautiful and profound theological truth.

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But you might be sitting there thinking, "Okay, that's great, but what does God's creative nature from thousands of years ago have to do with my life, my bills, my anxiety, my feeling of being lost right now?"

The answer to that question, my friends, is the hinge upon which your entire existence turns.

It's the master key, and it's found just a few verses later, at the pinnacle of the creation story.

After shaping the cosmos and filling the earth, God arrives at the apex of His physical creation.

And suddenly, the language changes.

He doesn't just say, "Let there be humans" in the same way He spoke other things into being.

There's a divine pause, a heavenly conference, a declaration of unique and profound intention.

Genesis 1, verses 26 and 27 say: "Then God said, '**Let us** make mankind in our image, in our likeness...'

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So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

Please do not just skim over that verse.

This is arguably the most electrifying statement about you ever written.

You, and every human being, are made in the image of God.

The Latin phrase for this concept is Imago Dei.

This is what separates humanity from everything else in all of creation.

The stars are glorious, but they are not made in His image. The mountains are majestic, but they are not made in His image. The animals are wonderful, but they are not made in His image.

You are!

Now, let's connect the two foundational truths. This is the "aha!" moment that can change your life.

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Truth number one: The very first way God reveals Himself to humanity is as a Creator (Elohim).

Truth number two: You are uniquely and wonderfully made in His image (Imago Dei).

So, if God is a Creator by His very nature, and you are made in His image... what does that irrevocably imply about you?

The implication is absolutely stunning: **You were made to be a creator, too.**

This is the master key. Your fundamental, God-given identity is that of an image-bearer of the Master Creator.

Your purpose isn't something you have to go out and find, like a lost set of car keys. It's something you already are. It's written into your spiritual DNA.

A fish doesn't have to search for its purpose; it was made to swim. A bird doesn't attend a seminar to discover its purpose; it was made to fly.

And you, made in the image of a God who creates, were made to create.

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Your deepest, most innate purpose is to reflect the creative nature of your Maker in the world He's placed you in.

This truth changes everything. It moves you from a posture of desperate searching to one of confident living.

You stop asking, "What is my purpose?" and you start asking, "How can I live out the creative purpose I've already been given?"

That ache you feel, that sense of being made for more? It's the stirring of this creative identity within you. It's the creator inside you, made by God, crying out to be expressed.

4. The "So What?" - Redefining "Creative".

Right now, I know a huge objection might be rising in your mind. "But I'm not creative. I can't paint a masterpiece. I can't write a song. I can't even draw a straight line.

I'm an accountant, a stay-at-home parent, a truck driver, a mechanic.

This message isn't for me.

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If that's your thought process, then this next part is precisely for you.

We've tragically let the world shrink the magnificent, God-sized definition of "create" into a tiny, inaccessible box labeled "the arts."

But God's creativity is much bigger and more diverse than that, and so is yours.

To create in God's image isn't just about making art; it's about bringing order, value, beauty, and fruitfulness to any and every corner of your life.

It's about taking what is raw, chaotic, or broken and, through your God-given effort and intention, making it better.

Let's blow the doors off our narrow, worldly definition of creativity.

Are you a parent?

You are a creator of the highest and most sacred order.

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You take the beautiful, raw chaos of childhood and you create a home.

You create stability, love, discipline, and security. You are cultivating human souls, creating a family culture that will echo for generations to come.

That is a profoundly creative and world-shaping act. Are you an accountant, a programmer, or a data analyst?

You are a creator. You take a confusing, chaotic jumble of numbers or lines of code, a form of chaos, and you create order, clarity, function, and understanding.

You create the financial health that allows a business to grow or the software that allows a family to connect.

Are you a teacher? You are a creator.

You look at a mind full of raw, untapped potential and you cultivate knowledge.

You build bridges from ignorance to insight.

You design lesson plans that spark curiosity.

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You create a safe space for growth and discovery.

You are co-laboring with God in the creation of a person's future.

Are you a gardener, a chef, a mechanic, or an organizer? You are a creator.

You bring beauty, nourishment, function, and order into the physical world.

You take soil and seed and create a harvest.

You take raw ingredients and create a meal that brings people together in community.

You take a broken engine and create a functioning vehicle.

You take clutter and create a space of peace and rest.

These are direct reflections of the God who brought order to a formless and void world.

Are you an entrepreneur, a manager, or a team leader?
You are a creator.

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You create systems, products, and services that solve problems.

You create jobs and opportunities for others to provide for their families.

You create team culture and a vision for the future.

You are exercising the call from Genesis 1 to bring structure and fruitfulness to the world.

Are you a student? You are creating the foundation of knowledge and character for a lifetime of creative work.

Are you a friend who listens? You create a space of safety and trust.

Are you someone who writes a note or offers a kind word? You create hope. You create community.

You create a pocket of light in someone's darkness.

You see, your purpose isn't a job title. Your purpose is a creative identity.

It's about being an agent of order, beauty, function, and growth wherever you are, with whatever you have.

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It's taking the raw material God has put in front of you, your skills, your relationships, your resources, your challenges, and using your unique abilities to make it better.

That is your purpose. It's not one thing you do; it's a way of being in everything you do.

You are a creator, made in the image of the Creator.

Please let us take a small break.

If this message is for you, please consider subscribing and sharing it with someone who needs to hear that their life has profound, God-given meaning.

5. The Creative Process and The Four Layers of Purpose.

Understanding our creative identity is the foundation, but how does it actually play out in our daily lives?

The Bible doesn't just tell us that we are creators; it shows us the pattern.

The creation week in Genesis 1 isn't just a historical record; it's a divine model for how purpose unfolds.

First, there is Awareness and Intention.

The story begins with a world that is "formless and empty," a state of chaos, but the "Spirit of God was hovering over the waters."

Before any action, there is divine presence and awareness.

For us, this is where purpose begins. It's the moment we become aware of a need, a problem, a chaos in our own sphere of influence.

It's the Spirit of God stirring in us, creating a holy discontent and planting an intention in our hearts: **This could be better!**

This could be more ordered, more beautiful, more fruitful.

Second, comes Disruption and Action.

God speaks: "Let there be light." His word is an act of power that disrupts the darkness.

An intention without action is just a daydream.

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Our creative purpose calls us to act, to speak, to begin.

It might be messy.

The world wasn't perfectly finished on Day 1. But the process had begun.

Often, when we step into our purpose, things get messier and more chaotic before they get orderly.

Think of Joseph—his divine dream from God led directly to the disruption of being thrown in a pit by his brothers.

Disruption isn't a sign of failure; it's often a sign that a new creation is underway.

Third, there is Ordering and Completion.

Day by day, God separates, forms, and fills.

He brings structure out of chaos. He organizes. This is the daily, often unglamorous, work of our purpose.

It's showing up consistently, honing our craft, organizing the project, raising the children, building the business, loving our neighbor.

It's the long, faithful middle. **And at the end, God looks at his work and calls it "good."**

He takes joy and satisfaction in what He has made.

This creative process is how we express our purpose, and this purpose can be seen in four interconnected layers, all flowing from our identity as creators:

Our Spiritual Purpose: To Please God.

Before we do anything for God, we are called to simply be with God.

Our highest and primary calling is to cultivate a relationship of love and worship with our Creator.

2 Corinthians 5:9 says, "So we make it our goal to please him."

Our creative acts should flow from a place of intimacy with Him.

Our Vocational Purpose: To Create Value.

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This is where we apply our specific gifts and abilities to the world.

Philippians 2 tells us to look not only to our own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Our vocational purpose is to use our creative identity to solve problems and serve the needs of those around us, whether that's in our paid work, our family life, or our community service.

Our Social Purpose: To Connect with Others.

God himself exists in community, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

When He said, "Let us make mankind in our image," He revealed a relational nature at the core of His being.

We are therefore made for connection.

We were built for relationship.

We reflect our Creator when we create family, friendship, and healthy community.

Our Sacrificial Purpose: To Serve Generously.

This is the highest and most Christ-like expression of our purpose.

Paul points to Jesus, who, "being in very nature God... made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant."

The ultimate creative act is to pour ourselves out for the good of others.

Our purpose finds its deepest and most profound meaning not in self-fulfillment, but in self-giving.

These four layers aren't a checklist, but are beautifully woven together.

We please God by using our vocational skills to serve others, building community in a sacrificial, loving way.

It all flows from one central, unshakable identity: you are a creator, made in the image of Elohim.

6. Developing and Deploying Your Creative Purpose.

So, how do we actively develop and steward the creative identity God has given us?

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A purpose that isn't developed remains dormant, like a seed that's never planted.

It has potential, but it bears no fruit.

It requires intentionally cultivating our character (the internal work) and our competence (the external work).

First, let's talk about Developing Yourself.

This is the vital internal work of the heart.

Cultivate Gratefulness.

1 Corinthians 4:7 asks the humbling question, "What do you have that you did not receive?"

Every ability, every ounce of energy, every breath in your lungs, it is all a gift.

Gratitude is the posture that keeps us humble and tethered to the Source of our creativity.

It transforms our work from a frantic strive for personal glory into a joyful act of worship.

Cultivate Joyfulness.

Psalm 16:11 declares, "In your presence there is fullness of joy."

God did not create out of some grim, cosmic duty; the repeated phrase "it was good" in Genesis 1 suggests divine delight and satisfaction in His work.

When we operate in our God-given purpose, there should be an underlying joy, a deep satisfaction in knowing you are doing what you were made to do.

Cultivate Faithfulness.

In the Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25, the master doesn't reward the most talented servants, but the servants who were faithful with what they were given.

Faithfulness means being a good steward of the creative opportunities you have right now, no matter how small they seem.

Your grand purpose is built on a foundation of daily, consistent faithfulness.

Cultivate Mastery.

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Ecclesiastes 9:10 instructs, "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might."

Part of honoring the Creator is pursuing excellence in our own creative work.

Hone your skills. Read the books. Learn from mentors. Practice your craft.

Excellence is not about perfectionism, which is rooted in fear.

It is about offering our very best as a testament to the excellence of our Creator.

Once we're actively developing our inner character, we must Deploy Ourselves in our purpose.

This is the external action.

Yield to God's Will.

Romans 12:1 urges us to offer our bodies as a "living sacrifice."

This is the essence of deployment.

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It is saying, "God, my creative energy is Yours.

My hands are Yours. My mind is Yours. My plans are Yours. Use me."

It's a shift from asking, "What do I want to create for my own glory?" to "God, what do You want to create through me for Your glory?"

Seek God's Wisdom.

James 3:17 says the wisdom that comes from heaven is pure, peace-loving, considerate, and full of good fruit.

We need this divine wisdom to know which opportunities to pursue and which to pass on, and to ensure that what we are creating is truly good, beautiful, and true.

Commit to Excellence in Action.

It's not enough to have a good intention; we must follow through with excellent execution.

When you deploy your purpose, you are representing the Master Creator to a watching world.

Your work, whether it's a spreadsheet, a meal, or a conversation, becomes a signature of your God.

Do it "as for the Lord."

This is the lifelong rhythm of a purpose-filled life: a continuous cycle of gratitude, joy, faithfulness, mastery, yielding, wisdom, and excellence.

It's the sacred journey of becoming the creative image-bearer you were always meant to be.

Conclusion & Call-to-Action

We traveled back to the very beginning, to the first thunderous words spoken out of eternity:

"In the beginning, God created."

We've discovered this isn't just a fact about the universe's origin; it's a profound declaration of identity.

God is a Creator. And in the breathtaking, intimate climax of His creation, He made you and said, "Let this one be in my image."

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For too long, you may have believed the lie that your life lacks meaning, or that your purpose is some hidden, mystical treasure you'll never be worthy enough to find.

Today, I urge you to replace that lie with this unshakable truth: You are not an accident. You are not an afterthought. You are a masterpiece, designed with intention by the Master Creator.

Your true purpose isn't a job title or a distant goal; it's the creative identity you inherited from your Father.

It is, quite simply, who you are.

So stop the exhausting, frantic search for purpose and **start living it. Right now. Today.**

Embrace your God-given identity as a creator. See every task before you, every relationship you're in, and every challenge you face as a divine opportunity to reflect the good, beautiful, and ordering nature of God.

If you have been feeling lost, adrift, and without purpose, and this message has stirred something deep within you, I want to invite you to pray with me.

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This isn't a magic formula, but it is an honest conversation with your Maker, a chance to reconnect your heart with the One who designed you from the very beginning.

Let's pray.

"Father God, Elohim, Creator of the heavens and the earth, thank you for Your first words.

Thank you for revealing Yourself not as a distant ruler, but as a Master Artist and Builder.

And thank you for the overwhelming, life-changing truth that You made me in Your image.

Forgive me for seeking my purpose and my worth in things that could never satisfy the ache in my soul.

Today, I choose to believe the truth of Your Word. I embrace my identity as a creator, made in Your likeness.

Awaken this divine purpose within me. Open my eyes to see the opportunities all around me, in my home, my work, my community, my relationships, to bring order, beauty, function, and value.

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Fill me with Your Spirit, the same Spirit that hovered over the waters at creation, and empower me to be your hands and feet.

I yield my life, my talents, and my future to You.

Use me to reflect Your glory. In the powerful and precious name of Jesus, I pray. Amen."

If you prayed that prayer, your journey of rediscovery has just begun.

I want to invite you to take one more small, practical step.

In the comments below, share one small way you can embrace your creative purpose this week.

Is it organizing one drawer to bring order to chaos? Is it writing one encouraging email to create hope?

Is it intentionally creating one peaceful moment for your family? Let's fill this space with testimonies to our creative God and encourage one another on this journey.

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If this message blessed you, please consider subscribing and sharing it with someone who needs to hear that their life has profound, God-given meaning.

Remember who you are. You are an image-bearer of the Creator.

Now go, and create. Stay blessed.