

HEADING INTO 2018

I The fundamental purpose for which we as human beings were created by God:

1. **GLORIFY** God – Isaiah 43:7
2. **ENJOY** God’s fellowship – Psalm 104
3. **HAVE** a **PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP** with God’s Son Jesus Christ – Matthew 11

John 15:4-5, 7-9 - ⁴ **Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.** ⁵ **I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.**

⁷ **If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.** ⁸ **By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.** ⁹ **As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.**

II How do we realize God’s purpose for us in 2018?

1. Step # 1 – **PRAYER** - “if you **ABIDE** in Me”

The “Nasty Nine” for sliding out of prayer:

1. Not very **SPIRITUAL**
2. Never figured out **HOW** to pray
3. Not in the **MOOD**
4. **PARENTS** didn’t model prayer for me
5. **NOTHING** to say to God
6. My **STUFF** isn’t important to God
7. Don’t **DESERVE** to have my prayers answered
8. God would never say **YES**
9. **WHAT IF GOD SAYS NO?**

Abide = **STAY STRONG**

= **EXIST** under **ADVERSITY**

= Don’t allow **CIRCUMSTANCES** to change you

Hebrews 4:16 - **Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**

God **LISTENS** to the things we pray

He **CARES**

He has the **POWER** to **HELP** us

“The basic purpose of prayer is not to **BEND** God’s will to mine, but to **MOLD** my will to His.” Tim Keller

2. Step # 2 – **PERFECT** Word of God

“If you abide in Me, and *My Words* abide in you...”

The Bible is:

* God’s **REVELATION** to us

* God’s **TRUTH**

* Ultimately authored by the **HOLY SPIRIT**

II Timothy 3: 15-16 - ¹⁵ **and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.** ¹⁶ **All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness**

3. Step # 3 – **PERSONAL** relationship with Jesus Christ

“I have loved you. Abide n My love.”

Every single person needs 3 things:

1. **FORGIVENESS**

2. **FREEDOM** from **GUILT**

3. **FELLOWSHIP** with God through Jesus Christ

4. Step # 4 – What is your personal, spiritual goal with which to glorify God in 2018?

HEADING IN TO 2018

NAME: _____

1. What is one wonderful thing the Dollarama watch did? _____

2. What big thing did it NOT do? _____

3. What is the fundamental purpose for which God created us?

a. G _____

b. E _____

c. H _____

From the purposes above, put the right letter beside each Scripture:

* Psalm 104 - _____ * Isaiah 43:7 - _____ * Matthew 11 - _____

4. Look at the quote from John Chapter 15 on the screen

* Who spoke these words? _____

* When? _____

* How were the disciples feeling? _____

Why? _____

5. What is Step # 1 to realizing God's purpose in us? _____

6. Write down 3 of the Nasty Nine.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

BONUS: Write down any of the remaining 6 of the Nasty Nine you can.

4. _____ 5. _____

6. _____ 7. _____

8. _____ 9. _____

7. Which of the 9 have you used? (be honest) - #'s _____

8. Can you give 3 different meanings for MENO – (ABIDE)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

9. These 3 statements are very important for every Christian:

* God L_____ to the things we pray

* God C_____

* God has the P_____ to H_____ us.

10. What are 2 BLOCKAGES to prayer?

1. _____

2. _____

11. God works in ways and times that we can't see. T [] F []

12. Where is Tim Keller's church? _____

13. "The basic purpose for prayer is not to _____ God's will to mine, but to _____ my will to His."

14. What is the best way to learn to pray? _____

15. Step # 2 - _____

16. When Jesus said, "I Am" 7x, what was He saying?

17. Do you believe Jesus rose bodily from the dead? Y [] N []

18. What are 2 things that Scripture is profitable for?

1. _____

2. _____

19. How old was Pastor Barry when he was born again? _____

20. How did the story of the helpless widow illustrate salvation? _____

21. What is your personal, spiritual goal with which to glorify God in 2108? _____

