

# The Bride – Chapter One: Our Purpose.

Why does the church, the bride of Christ, exist?

- **1 Cor 10:31** – Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the **glory of God**.

The church's primary purpose is to glorify God.

- **Eph3:21** – 'To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen'.

All the questions on why we are serving in the church, must have one and only one answer

## To glorify God

When you glorify God, it has a healthy impact on others. People will see your model and want to glorify Him as well.

- **Matt 5:16** – Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

## What does it mean to glorify God?

- It means to magnify and elevate the Lord God as we diminish and deny ourselves.
  - 'He must increase, but I must decrease' (John 3:30).
- It means we cannot at the same time accept the glory and give God the glory.
- Glorifying God means being occupied with and committed to His ways rather than preoccupied with and determined to go our own way.
- If we do ministry our way, it won't be for His glory, because our ways are not His ways.
- Exalting our living Lord should be literally our greatest delight.

Look at David, the man who truly understood what it meant to give God the glory.

- Whether in days of his delight (Ps. 145) or days of his distress (Ps. 86), the glory went to the Lord.
- **Psalms 145: 1-7** – 'Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised, ... His greatness is unsearchable..... Thy mighty acts, ... shall meditate on Thy wonderful works, ... speak of Thy power,... of Thy abundant goodness,... shout joyfully of Thy righteousness.
- **Psalms 86: 1-10** – 'For Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive,... abundant in loving kindness, there is no one like Thee, ... Thou art great and does wondrous deeds. Thou alone art God.'

## How do we glorify God on a personal basis?

We need to realize that glorifying God can be applied to every details of our lives in:

- ◆ All the “whens”.
- ◆ All the “ins”.
- ◆ All the “ifs”.

## **How do we personalized this truth so that we end our life like Jesus, who said at the end of His “I glorified Thee on the earth”?**

3 Realistic and attainable suggestions:

1. By cultivating the habits of including the Lord God in every segment of our life.
2. By refusing to expect or accept any of the glory that belongs to God.
3. By maintaining a priority relationship with Him that is more important than any other on earth.

## **How do we glorify God on a personal basis?**

Threefold Action Plan:

1. By cultivating the habits of including the Lord God in every segment of our life.
  - Meet often and alone with Him.
2. By refusing to expect or accept any of the glory that belongs to God.
  - Openly admit your struggle with pride.
3. By maintaining a priority relationship with Him that is more important than any other on earth.
  - Filter everything through the same question: Will this bring glory to God or to me?

## **Conclusion:**

- Even though we can fake giving God the glory, don't!
- The good news is that we can make it!
- We can glorify God and we must glorify Him.

Be reminded that we stand beside the all powerful Christ, as His Bride, who has the power to transform us.

**Let us never forget it must be done in His strength and for His glory!**

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## **Our Vision:**

Glorify God as a holy, loving, united church

## **Our Mission:**

To love Christ and people, transforming hearts and lives together