

Great Love!
(God's Purpose for Sending Jesus)
1 John 3:1-8

*Behold, what **manner (how great) of love** the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.*

*2 Beloved, **now are we the sons of God**, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

*3 And every man that hath this **hope in him purifieth himself**, even as he is pure.*

4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.

7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

*8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. **For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.***

- What is Purpose?
Purpose is the “**Why**” behind the “**What**” and the “**How**”!

- Matthew 4:18-20

And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.

- How do we begin to receive Jesus in the power of His Love? **What does Jesus say to us?**

I. **FOLLOW ME!**

- The practice of following is all about self-sacrifice, submission, and a servant lifestyle!
- It is not at all about leading. It is about giving up your will to another!
- This is a commitment to the act of following!
- It is also a commitment to the person who is leading! (Romans 8:14)

*For as many as are **led** by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

II. **I WILL MAKE YOU!**

- This is the process of God turning us into disciples and anointed vessels!
- This process is often painful and time consuming but it will help us to be productive and happy!
- We must be the clay in the hand of the master potter! (Jeremiah 18)

The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words.

3 Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels.

4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

5 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

6 O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

II. **FISHERS OF MEN.** (V.20)

And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.

A. THESE MEN WALKED AWAY FROM EVERYTHING THEY WERE AND EVERYTHING THEY KNEW TO FOLLOW JESUS!

1. These men had been fishermen all of their lives.
2. That was all they knew. They were from a long line of fishermen!

3. They made a decision to start over and become a whole new person and learn a whole new trade!

B. THEY WERE WILLING TO FOLLOW JESUS INTO THEIR DESTINY!

1. Notice that Jesus spoke their language. He calls them fishers of men!
2. Their past had a hand in shaping their future!
3. Your identity will help to shape your divine destiny! God can use our Pre-Salvation Experiences to advance the Kingdom of God.

CONCLUSION:

What is our purpose and why are we here? It's easy!

We are here to be followers of Jesus and clay in his hands! He will make Family of Faith into that perfect church that reaches out to its destined harvest! He will do it through His great love!