



Our Purpose - To Glorify and Enjoy God

Key idea:

Why did God create humans? To glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

Key text:

1 Corinthians 10:31

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

Psalm 16:11

You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Key points:

1. We are not the result of random cosmic processes but were created by God and therefore have a purpose that God has revealed to us.
2. We, like the rest of creation, were created to glorify God. God and His glory is the center of all creation, and if anyone or anything becomes oriented towards something other than God and His glory it becomes twisted and perverted.
3. We are to glorify God in all of life, not just in Sunday morning worship or other spiritual activities. To glorify God is to submit all of my desires, thoughts, and actions to Him, seeking to serve Him and others in all I do.
4. We were created to enjoy God, both now and in eternity. The nature of all creation is that the only doorway to true joy is found in God Himself. Every other joy we experience is ultimately rooted in God Himself and can only find fulfillment in relation to God.
5. The path to joy and life is not found in self-fulfillment but rather in turning away from self to God.
6. The joy of glorifying God will never end but will expand throughout eternity as our capacity to glorify and enjoy God grows through endless ages.

Questions for discussion/application:

1. Note: this is BRCC Catechism Question 1. The catechism has many other verses, questions, and resources for further study related to this question.
2. What part of Sunday's text and teaching stood out most to me? Why?
3. Does it really make a difference if I was created by God or if I merely evolved by random chance? If I am merely the product of blind cosmic forces can there be any purpose to my life?
4. Why is God the center of the universe? Is it really right that I exist to glorify Him? Why is that not selfishness and arrogance on the part of God?
5. What does it mean to glorify God? Am I making God glorious, or merely recognizing that He is glorious? How do I actually glorify God?
6. How do I glorify God in the various areas of my life? What concrete ways can I glorify God in my personal life? In my family life? In my work? In my relationships with other people? With my possessions?
7. Does it seem paradoxical that my single purpose is both to glorify God and to enjoy Him? Why does a relentless focus on God and desire to glorify Him create joy for me?
8. John Piper states "God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him." What does this mean? How are my joy and satisfaction in God related to glorifying God?
9. Why is self-denial rather than the restless attempt to find self-fulfillment the path to true joy? Is it possible to find true, lasting joy by searching within and seeking to serve myself and my desires first? Why or why not?
10. Can I identify one or two areas where I am seeking my purpose and joy apart from God? How can I reorient my desires and pursuits in this area?
11. Whom can I pray for, share what I have learned, and invite to church this week?

Preview of next week: Our Instruction Manual: The Bible (2 Timothy 3:14-17)