



CHAPTER 6 – SECTION B

SESSION **21** 22

DOING LIFE TOGETHER

The Purpose Series

One life, one purpose...Your purpose in life is specific and significant, but it will always be part of a bigger plan. This workshop will help you gain knowledge about that bigger plan, help you to understand your part in that plan and enable you to fulfil your purpose. It will provide you with tools, **based on the Word of God**, to not only overcome your current and future challenges but also help you become a solution to those around you.

This material is an extract from the April 2018 Purpose Series presented by Schalk Reyneke

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CHAPTER 1:
GOD'S PURPOSE
ON EARTH

CHAPTER 2:
CHRIST'S
PURPOSE IN
EARTH

CHAPTER 3:
WHAT IS THE
WORD OF GOD

CHAPTER 4:
ONLY WITH THE
HOLY SPIRIT

CHAPTER 5:
PERSPECTIVE
ON LIFE

WELCOME TO
CHAPTER 6 OF 6

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CHAPTER 6: DOING LIFE TOGETHER

SECTION B: THE ACTS CHURCH

PLEASE REMEMBER:

- This course is all about activation. It must move every person to action. The function of this course is to help people live and fulfill their purpose.
- This course is here to help people in many different ways. The tools they will be provided with, will be explained throughout the content.
- This course is strategic. Whether we call it *equipping of the Saints*, or *discipleship*, one of the flaws of many processes is that it makes people dependent on the person helping them.
- The focus of this course is to make people independent yet interconnected. This is critical to understand!

TOPICS AND QUESTIONS COVERED IN THIS SECTION:

- Lifestyle and oneness
- Surround yourself with the right people
- Manifesting love
- Helping people
- The End time church
- YouTube Video – **Chapter 6, section B** (duration 30 minutes)

https://youtu.be/glOq6_fy68E

A CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT

For a while now, we have been referring to the Acts church as the example of what church should be like today. We use the term, the Acts Church, as a reference, to what church was meant to look like, to be like, before religion affected this culture.

I was in a specific church in 2009, when my life changed. Many things happened in that first week. One of the first things the Holy Spirit showed me that week, was a list of things practiced in the church I found myself, that did not appear in the Word of God. (I want to encourage you to observe, wherever you currently find yourself, look around at what is being applied in that environment. Consult the Word of God and try to find the things you see.) Then, the Holy Spirit took me a step further. He said, these are the things you read in Acts and other areas of the New Testament and this is what church should look like. I looked around and most of them, were not visible in that particular church. My intention was never to point fingers. I told my wife that I would not simply be like some other people I heard about and point to others and say, "you are wrong, and I am right" and then just leave. It would have been easy to accept that we were on two opposing sides, and then simply leave the church. Instead, I decided to share my experience with the Holy Spirit, with them. As you can imagine, that did not go down very well. You see, people in religion do not like to be challenged, although it was not my intention at all to challenge them. The Holy Spirit told me to go back to the church and testify. The very next Sunday evening, I went and testified about the reality I witnessed, through the Holy Spirit.

Here is the significance about a testimony. **Revelation 12:11** *And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony;*

Sharing one's testimony tends to speak to people's hearts, it is the reason I share my own testimonies with others. I urge you, encourage you, to start sharing your testimonies as often as you can, because that is how we overcome the things we need to. People can argue with you for hours about how you interpret a particular verse, but people cannot argue with you about your testimonies. When we share testimonies, people cannot argue with us. In fact, it challenges their thinking.

I was bold – I took the Bible, went back and stood in front of this church and testified about all these things. I am not claiming to have done everything in the correct way, I did not know any better. As I said, I was like a bull in a china shop. What I do know, is that God used it all to turn out for the benefit of everyone. When I stood in front of the church, which was packed to capacity, I shook the Bible and said, "It's time we believe that this is the Word of God and act accordingly!"

I continued to speak for 10 minutes. I then received a call to meet them the following Tuesday at 11am – they did not like what I said. That Monday evening, I prayed. I prayed in tongues because I was not sure what to pray for. I started crying; and just kept crying for what felt like forever. God said to me, ‘That is a glimpse of my heart towards my people who are held in captivity in religion. I’m going to give you an opportunity to testify.’ I woke up Tuesday morning and said to my wife, “Can you believe it? God is giving me an opportunity to testify to them.” The meeting was about reprimanding me for what I said, I had no doubt. I arrived at 11am and unbeknown to me, there were 9 preachers waiting for me. An elderly gentleman said to the rest, “Surely you are enough for this meeting?” I said, “No, please, you must stay.” He must have thought I was delusional; I obviously did not know what was about to unfold. He stayed. The Holy Spirit was at work. I spoke for an hour, they never said a word and just listened to me testify about my life. How could they argue? It was my testimony after all? They could not argue.

At the end, the person chairing the meeting gave everyone an opportunity to speak and they could not say much. The one person claimed to be working on content relating to the gifts and the functioning of the Holy Spirit for a whole year and I messed that all up in one evening. I thought to myself, what substance does this work have if I could mess up a year’s worth of work in an evening? That in itself was an indication that what he was doing was physical. If it were spiritual, it would have been able to withstand testing. If it were reality, it could have stood grounded and did not need defending.

The reality is, God gave me that opportunity to see everything that was wrong in that church and I had a desire to change things. I was in an environment where I kept challenging everything and everybody, and this was not helping. Although I did not want to do it, I had to move on from that environment. It was not my intention to leave, but you just cannot keep challenging actions in an environment that is not consistent with your convictions, testimonies and experience of reality. Sometimes you are at a particular place for a specific reason and for a specific season and then you need to move on.

1. LIFESTYLE AND ONENESS

Key Points:

1. We have become part of Christ (new creation), we have become His life and His purpose in this earth and therefore it is a lifestyle.
2. Many people have been put of by the double lifestyle of Christians.
3. Your biggest testimony is your life, not your words.
4. There is something more significant than unity and that is oneness.
5. Oneness is resembled in the illustration of the body.
6. When the Body is in oneness, there is consistency, co-ordination, one Body functioning in one direction.
7. Oneness happens when there is a desire to put God first.

2. SURROUND YOURSELF WITH THE RIGHT PEOPLE

Key points:

1. The Acts church had a strong focus on doing life together
2. Be surrounded by people that have the same purpose, intention and priorities than you.
3. You need to surround yourself with people for whom God is priority in their lives; that will give you the best possible chance to manifest Christ in this earth.
4. Become consistent with God's intention in your life, but not in isolation.

3. MANIFESTING LOVE

Key points:

1. You need to pray for someone's heart to be receptive and then the Holy Spirit will lead you, to lead them, to Christ, when they are ready.
2. When it is truly about the people, about love, about perfection, you only respond when the Spirit tells you to respond.
3. It is important not to force your conviction onto other people.
4. When someone's heart is ready, and you live the lifestyle, people will see it and it will attract them.
5. We should make sure nobody is lacking and take care of each other.
6. People looking in from the outside saw the love being manifested, it attracted them, and God added to the church daily.
7. Religion does not attract people, true loved lived does.

4. HELPING PEOPLE

Key points:

1. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit when it comes to helping people.
2. Some people are in the position of not having an income and living on the streets because of stubbornness. Some are not teachable. You cannot help everyone.
3. People need to be flooded with the Word, so that they can start standing up and making the right decisions.
4. Not everybody is willing to change and sometimes there is a reason why people are where they are.

5. THE END TIME CHURCH

Key Points:

1. The end time church should function consistent with the Word of God.
2. It is not the new way. It is just going back to what church always was and bringing it back into our lives.
3. The end time church should be all about an active Body.
4. The only way we will have an active Body is if every member is activated

Features of the end times church:

- a) No buildings are required, as people gather at houses. This means, no overheads.
 - b) It can accommodate an unlimited number of people.
 - c) It is nameless, brandless and has no title.
 - d) It is not about a specific ministry; there is only one church.
 - e) It is non-denominational.
 - f) It has no man-made rules.
 - g) It is not an organisation.
 - h) You do not need a membership number or certificate.
5. The churches today, in general, should be a gross contributor into community.
 6. There is nothing wrong with finances or tithing, but it needs to firstly take care of the community.

Scriptures

Revelation 12:11 (NKJV)

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Acts 2:46-47 (NKJV)

⁴⁶ *So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.*

Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Ecclesiastes 4:10 (NKJV)

For if they fall, one will lift up his companion.

But woe to him who is alone when he falls,

For he has no one to help him up.

Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NKJV)

Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him.

And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2 Thessalonians 3:10 (NKJV)

For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.

Acts 4:33-35 (NKJV)

³³ *And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. ³⁴ Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, ³⁵ and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.*