

# Cultivate Reflection Guide

**Different: A Different Purpose**  
Pastor Claude Hickman | November 5-6, 2022

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It can be hard to stand up for what's different. If we want to live differently, we need to see life through a new lens. The apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians is a reminder and a challenge to us that we live differently because we belong to Jesus.

Our Reflection Guide is a tool to help you grow spiritually wise, relationally kind and emotionally healthy. Use it to start a REAL conversation in community or to cultivate God's word into your life through personal bible study. Choose the questions that most encourage you to reflect and respond to what we're learning. Pair it with your bible, a journal or any resource that helps you learn. *It's not about getting through the content, but getting the content through you!*

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**Read:** [Ephesians 5:10-17 NLT](#). As Christians, our lives should look different from the rest of the world because our lives are lived in relationship with Jesus. And so, as we live, we should "carefully determine what pleases the Lord" [v.10]. Does the way you live reflect that kind of careful determination?

## Reflect & Respond:

1. God wants us to know our **purpose** in life.
  - [Read 1 Corinthians 9:25-26 NIV](#). Where you are today may not be where you want to be or even where you'll end up, but you can still live with purpose right where Jesus has you. What are some ways you are purposefully living for Jesus today?
  - How have you seen the way you live make a difference in your sphere of influence: your people and your relationships in your home, neighborhood, workplace, classroom, etc.?
  - If the way you're living is not impacting or influencing anyone, what could you begin to do differently so that you can live for Jesus right where you are?
2. To find **divine purpose** we must start with a **different person**.
  - [Read Ephesians 5:10](#). Where are you seeking purpose [satisfaction, validation, worth] apart from God? This could be from within yourself, from other people or through other things.
  - What needs to change so that you can re-align your purpose and pursue what pleases God?
3. **God's mission** was global from the beginning, and it's **our mission** too!
  - [Romans 15:20 NLT](#). God has always had a plan to bless the world, but many of us haven't seen it. When you consider that there are over 3.4 billion people unreached by the gospel, what do you think you can do?
  - [Read Ephesians 5:15-17 NLT](#). When we live carefully, we build credibility SO THAT we can use every opportunity to share Jesus. How can you thoughtfully use your blessings (what you have), your words (what you say) and your faith (what you believe) to lead others to Jesus?

**Prayer:** Lord, forgive me for the times I've taken your word for granted and failed to see the mission field all around me. Thank you for opening my eyes to the truth that there are people who have never heard the gospel, and who never will unless they encounter someone like me. Remind me of my purpose, and help me to make the most of every opportunity to live wisely where you have me and make a difference in the world around me. Show me how to use my blessings, my words and my whole life to lead others to you. Amen.

## Dig Deeper Opportunity

You have a personal mission field around you, but you can also get more involved and support the work of global engagement at Sandals Church, by visiting [sandalschurch.com/globalengagement](https://sandalschurch.com/globalengagement).