

# INTRODUCTION TO PURPOSE DRIVEN **ACTIVATE WORKBOOK**

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## PURPOSE DRIVEN TRAINING

(Excerpts taken from Rick Warren's  
*The Purpose Driven Church*)



PURPOSE DRIVEN  
CHURCH

# LESSON 1: **BECOMING PURPOSE DRIVEN**

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## **MISSION & VISION**

- Why does the church exist?
- What drives your church?

# LESSON 2: **BRING THEM IN**

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## **REACHING YOUR COMMUNITY**

- Who are you called to reach?
- How do you reach them?

# LESSON 3: **BUILD THEM UP**

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## **DISCIPLING YOUR CHURCH FAMILY**

- Bringing people into your church family
- Creating a discipleship pathway

# LESSON 4: **TRAIN THEM FOR SERVICE AND SEND THEM OUT**

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## **EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY AND MISSION**

- Developing members for service
- A cultural mindset

# LESSON 1: BECOMING PURPOSE DRIVEN

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## MISSION & VISION

As we begin the journey toward building a healthier church, there are 2 important questions to ask. The first question, *Why does the Church exist?* Until we understand the *Why*, we have no foundation, direction, motivation, or clarity as we go about the process.

While there are many passages that describe what the church is to do and be, 2 statements by Jesus summarize it all: **The Great Commandment (MATT. 22:37-39)** and **The Great Commission (MATT. 28: 19-20)**. These two passages outline the 5 purposes of the church:

- Love God = WORSHIP
- Love others = MINISTRY
- Make disciples = EVANGELISM
- Bring them into the family = FELLOWSHIP
- Teach them to obey = DISCIPLESHIP

\*Additional passages outlining the 5 purposes: **JOHN 17: 1-26, EPHESIANS 4: 1-16, ACTS 2:1-47.**

### **A Great Commitment to *The Great Commandment* and *The Great Commission* will grow a great church!**

The second question is, *What drives MY church?* Every church is driven by something. A force, a controlling assumption, a directing conviction behind everything that happens. It may be unspoken and unknown to many, but it is there influencing every aspect of the church's life. What is driving your church? Is it traditions, finances, people, programs, events? All these elements contribute to the life of the church but shouldn't be the driving force. A healthy church isn't driven by external things but driven by the eternal purposes of God. As church leaders, it is our responsibility to understand these purposes/principles and implement them into our church.

While methodologies change from generation to generation, the message and purposes of the church always remain the same!

# LESSON 1: BECOMING PURPOSE DRIVEN *continued*

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## MISSION & VISION—QUESTIONS

Great Commandment – Love the Lord your God (worship) with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor (ministry) as yourself.

Great Commission – Therefore go and make disciples (evangelism/mission) of all nations, baptizing them (fellowship) in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them (discipleship) to obey everything I have commanded you.

### The 5 Purposes of Purpose Driven: WORSHIP • MINISTRY • EVANGELISM/MISSION FELLOWSHIP • DISCIPLESHIP

1. In your own words define why the Church exists?
2. Currently, what is driving your church?
3. Reflect on the 5 biblical purposes of the church, on a scale of 0-5, (0=non-existent, 5=solid), rate your current reality:

<b>Worship</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Ministry</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Evangelism</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Fellowship</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Discipleship</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5

4. What is your church's mission statement? If you don't have one, now is the perfect time to craft one or possibly re-evaluate the one you have.

# LESSON 2:

## BRING THEM IN

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### REACHING YOUR COMMUNITY

There is plenty of debate among Christians as to whether the church exists primarily to reach the lost or deepen the spiritual lives of believers. The church is designed to do both. Healthy churches follow the model of Jesus' ministry by seeking out new people to share the Good News—and—the mark of a mature church is when members care about people beyond the 4 walls of their own building.

We need all kinds of churches to reach all kinds of people. Who is your church called to reach? The answer isn't everyone who is lost. You'll never be able to reach everyone, but your church is suited to reach a specific group. Do you know who they are and the best way to reach them?

Jesus: "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." —**MATTHEW 15:24**

Paul: "I was entrusted with the task of preaching the gospel to the Gentiles, just as Peter had been to the Jews." —**GALATIANS 2:7**

These targets helped Jesus and Paul to be more effective, not exclusive. If you want to be effective, then you need to know what you're aiming for—your target. There are 4 specific factors to consider when identifying and defining your target:

- Geography — Where do the people live that you're trying to reach?
- Demography — What is the make-up of the average person in that area?
- Culture — What are their interests, what are common struggles, what do they value?
- Spiritual — What is their faith background, churched, unchurched, etc...?

By gathering and evaluating this data, you'll be more effective in all efforts and areas in your church.

Now that we know who these people are, how do we attract them to our church? Look at the ministry of Jesus. What attracted large crowds to Him?

- He loved them — He had a passion and burden for the lost.
- He met their needs — He met them where they were and cared for their needs beyond the spiritual.
- He taught in interesting and practical ways — This is why it's important to know our audience. Our target determines when, where and how we communicate.

Evangelism is about relationship not religion. It's about having a heart for the lost, meeting their needs in spiritual/relational/practical ways, and teaching them how to grow.

# LESSON 2:

## **BRING THEM IN** *continued*

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### **REACHING YOUR COMMUNITY—QUESTIONS**

Who are you called to reach? Surprise! The answer is not everyone who is lost. God has placed your church in a specific place to reach a specific group of people. It is your job to determine who they are and how to reach them.

**1.** Define the make-up of your community. Who is your target?

Geographically –

Demographically –

Culturally –

Spiritually –

**2.** What are you currently doing to reach the unchurched in your community?

**3.** Are your efforts in line with the needs of those you're trying to reach?

**4.** On a scale of 0-5, (0=non-existent, 5=solid), how well are you engaging with the unchurched in your community?

0    1    2    3    4    5

# LESSON 3:

## BUILD THEM UP

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### DISCIPLING YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

The New Testament is very clear that God's will for every believer is spiritual maturity—becoming more like Christ, and the best way for that to happen is within the context of a church family. We come together to know, grow, serve, and share. We are *better together* in all expressions of our faith.

One of the most common questions is: *How do we disciple our family of believers into deeper levels of spiritual growth and commitment?*

Spiritual growth is very practical. Any believer can take steps to grow in maturity if they develop and commit to the necessary habits. It's a life-long pursuit that requires discipline. There are no short cuts or crash courses. Balance + intentionality + time + commitment = growth. The apostle Paul often compared training for the Christian life to the way an athlete trains to compete.

If we understand God's purposes for the church, then we understand our job is to make disciples through the process of:

- Step 1: Introducing them to Jesus — *Evangelism*
- Step 2: Connecting them to God's Family — *Fellowship*
- Step 3: Teaching them to grow in grace and knowledge — *Discipleship*
- Step 4: Helping them fulfill their Kingdom purpose — *Ministry and Mission*

The end goal: Creating disciples who live fully surrendered to God—*Worship*

There are 2 significant weaknesses common in churches struggling with making disciples:

1. They haven't fully acknowledged and accepted the biblical principles/purposes outlined for the Church.
2. They haven't developed and implemented a disciple making strategy.

Bottom line: If you want to disciple your members for Kingdom impact, **your church must have a clear and systematic disciple making pathway/process**—from receiving Christ, to living out their life mission!

# LESSON 3:

## **BUILD THEM UP** *continued*

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### **DISCIPLING YOUR CHURCH FAMILY—QUESTIONS**

The same 5 purposes for the church; Worship, Ministry, Evangelism/Mission, Fellowship and Discipleship should also be foundational in the life of every believer—as they are the body of the Church. It is the responsibility of the local church to provide a clear and systematic pathway for each member to know and grow in all 5 of the purposes.

*Now you are no longer strangers to God and foreigners to heaven, but you are members of God's very own family... and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.*

—EPHESIANS 2:19

*Our greatest wish and prayer is you become mature Christians.* —2 CORINTHIANS 13:9B

1. How do you differentiate weekend attenders from committed church members?
2. How does someone become a church member?
3. Do you have a defined process/spiritual growth pathway for people to continually grow in their faith?
4. Is the process/pathway clearly communicated so that people know their next spiritual growth step?

# LESSON 4: TRAIN THEM FOR SERVICE AND SEND THEM OUT

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## EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY AND MISSION

One of the greatest needs in the Christian church is about engaging, empowering and releasing people for ministry. To be clear—we are talking about discipling people into ministry, not just building a culture of volunteerism. Any organization can recruit volunteers, but believers have a higher calling with a greater purpose. We are ministers that have been given gifts and unique experiences to fulfill God's purposes here on earth.

*As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. —1 PETER 4:10*

*...to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. —EPHESIANS 4:12*

*For we are God's workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. —EPHESIANS 2:10*

Your church will be the most effective and experience the greatest growth when the gifts of your members are encouraged and expressed. Pastor, your job is to shepherd your flock. It is your flock's job to do the work of the ministry. Remember, God has given each one of us specific gifts, and planted us in a specific place for a specific time. Don't rob your people of the opportunity to use the gifts God gave them.

There are 4 elements that must be present in your church to train your members for ministry, and it starts with you!

You must:

- Be a leader that is committed to developing ministers.
- Create a culture of servanthood and servant leadership in your church.
- Have an intentional process to identify and develop the gifts of your members.
- Offer opportunities for your members to live out their purpose in your church and across the globe.

There are people with all kinds of gifts that aren't being put to use to impact the Kingdom. People are dying to make a significant contribution with their lives. The church that understands this truth will experience greater health and growth. When we equip people to become ministers and release them for ministry in their local church and around the world, we will unleash an army that will be unstoppable!

# LESSON 4: TRAIN THEM FOR SERVICE AND SEND THEM OUT *continued*

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## EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY AND MISSION—QUESTIONS

Because every member is a minister, everyone has a ministry in the church and a mission in the world. How do we equip and encourage our members to live it out? By helping them discover their **SHAPE**:

**S**

Spiritual  
Gifts

**H**

Heart

**A**

Abilities

**P**

Personality

**E**

Experiences

All 5 elements of SHAPE are uniquely found in every believer and expressed as we serve in the local church and throughout the world.

1. Does your church have a process to help people identify and nurture their SHAPE? If so, please explain?
2. Does your church offer a variety of ministry opportunities for your members/attenders to serve their church family?
3. Does your church offer opportunities for your members/attenders to do outreach in the local community on a regular basis? Share a couple of examples.
4. Does your church offer opportunities for your members to engage in global mission outreach? Share an example.

# THANK YOU

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Thank you for exploring and investing your time in ACTIVATE. This short introduction was designed to provide a peek into the most basic elements of what it means to be Purpose Driven.

Purpose Driven isn't a strategy to help you grow your weekend attendance. It's an intentional and biblical disciple making process that will help you build a healthy church, that builds healthy disciples.

Through training, coaching, community cohorts and resources, we're available to help you take your next steps!

We'd love the opportunity to learn about you and your church! You can connect with us directly by emailing [staceyw@saddleback.com](mailto:staceyw@saddleback.com) or by visiting our website at [PD.church](https://pd.church).



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