

• A New Normal is a **required** new behavior.

• God walks with us as we **discover** His new normal. This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 2 Corinthians 5:17(NLT)

• This **new life** is our new normal.

22 God's Spirit makes us loving, happy, peaceful, patient, kind, good, faithful, gentle, and self-controlled.... Galatians 5:22-23 (CEV)

• Our new normal gives us a new **purpose** in life.

Many are living in one of three ways:

- Survival mode.
- <u>Success</u> mode.
- Significance mode.

We'll never be satisfied with **indifference** when our purpose is to make a **difference**.

• Our purpose in life brings purpose to **<u>everything</u>** in our lives.

Definition:

Purpose - The reason for which something is created, or why it exists.

The Lord has made everything for <u>His own purpose</u>... Proverbs 16:4 (GNT)

For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible — everything got started in him (God) and finds its purpose in him. Colossians 1:16 (Msg)

36 Now when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed. Acts 13:36

...David, a man about whom God said, 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart. He will do everything I want him to do.' Acts 13:22 (NLT)

- Living God's purpose requires God's heart.
- The heart of God has compassion for **people**.

12...as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion... Colossians 3:12 (NIV) $\,$

You are set apart for a **<u>compassionate</u>** life that looks like God.

36 Try to show as much compassion as your Father does. Luke 6:36 (TLB)

A Compassion that reflects God's means: • When we value people.

3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, Philippians 2:3 (NIV)

• When we **<u>care</u>** about their condition.

27 Never walk away from someone who deserves help; your hand is God's hand for that person. Proverbs 3:27 (MSG) $\,$

1 Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. 2 Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, "How can I help?" 3 That's exactly what Jesus did. He didn't make it easy for himself by avoiding people's troubles, but waded right in and helped out....Romans 15:1-3 (MSG)

We're willing to make a <u>difference</u>.

5 GOD is gracious—it is he who makes things right, our most compassionate God. 6 GOD takes the side of the helpless; when I was at the end of my rope, he saved me. Psalm 116:5-6 (MSG)

Don't be satisfied with **indifference** when your purpose is to make a **difference**.



Questions for Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- How important do you believe it is that we discover our purpose in life?
- Do you believe that our purpose is related to our focus? Explain.
- From the notes, what "mode" do you feel you are currently living in? Do you believe that you were created to make a difference? Does that excite you or scare you?
- What does the statement mean: "Our purpose in life brings purpose to everything in our lives." ?
- $\bullet\,$ Talk about why God's purpose in our lives requires God's heart.
- How does compassion for people help us express God's heart?
- What are some practical ways we can show compassion for people in this unique time in history? What are some of the needs people have? (*Physical, emotional and spiritual*)
- How can we show that we value people? What would it look like if you were to care for someone on behalf of God?
- Are you "willing" to make a difference in the lives of others? What does that require?
- Is there anyone that God has placed on your heart to help in some way? (could be meeting physical need, encouragement, etc.)

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