

**Purpose Over Popularity
I Choose – Part 1
January 8, 2017**

Your choices matter!

**Living for the approval of people
keeps you from the purposes of God.**

Hebrews 11:24-26 *“By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. ²⁵ He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.”*

Galatians 5:25 (NIV) *“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”*

Matthew 25:21 (NIV) *“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ ”*

There's Power In Purpose:

1. Purpose diminishes distractions.

Nehemiah 6:3 (NIV) *“So I sent messengers to them with this reply: ‘I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?’ ”*

2. Purpose pushes you through pain.

The pathway to purpose is always paved with pain.

Matthew 26:39 (NIV) *“Going a little farther, He fell with His face to the ground and prayed, ‘My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from Me. Yet not as I will, but as You will.’ ”*

3. Purpose empowers you to please God.

Exodus 5:22-23 (NIV) *“Moses returned to the Lord and said, ‘Why, Lord, why have You brought trouble on this people? Is this why You sent me?’²³ Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has brought trouble on this people, and You have not rescued Your people at all.”*

Exodus 6:1 (NIV) *“Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh: Because of My mighty hand he will let them go; because of My mighty hand he will drive them out of his country.’”*

Acts 5:28-29 (NIV) *“‘We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,’ he said. ‘Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man’s blood.’²⁹ Peter and the other apostles replied: ‘We must obey God rather than human beings!’”*

Ephesians 1:19b-21 (NIV) *“That power is the same as the mighty strength²⁰ He exerted when He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms,²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.”*

John 14:6 (NIV) *“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”*

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV) *“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.”*

**Today you are the sum total of
the choices you've made in the past.
But the choices you make today
determine who you become tomorrow.**

Ask... “How does this choice glorify God?”