

# Understanding God's Purpose

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## I. Introduction

### A. Joshua

1. Takes nation of Israel across Jordan River by starting to walk into the water.
2. Takes city of Jericho by walking around it seven times and shouting.

### B. God's ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts.

1. He knows the course He wants us to take.
2. We need to keep our eyes on Him.

## II. God's character

### A. God is love and therefore His purpose is to love us.

1. His love for Israel. (Hosea 11)
2. His love is everlasting. (Jeremiah 31:3)
3. Example of the woman at the well.
4. Who owns you?
5. Is His love enough?
6. His purpose is to love us fully and completely.
7. He is the strength of our heart. (Psalm 73:25-26)

### B. God is good, therefore His purpose is our highest good.

1. Eve questioned if God was good enough.
2. Martha questioned Jesus for not being there for Lazarus.
3. Jesus waited because he loved Lazarus, Mary and Martha. (John 11)
4. God is good and does good. (Psalm 119:68)
5. God is good to all. (Psalm 145:9)
6. God does not withhold good from the upright. (Psalm 84:11)

7. Every good gift is from God. (James 1:17)
8. The cross communicates the goodness of God.
9. Isn't salvation enough?
10. God wants us to be like Christ. (Romans 8:29)
11. We know all things work together for good. (Romans 8:28)
12. Joseph understood that God meant his circumstances for good.
13. Affliction makes us long for heaven.
14. Abraham and Sara learned faith as they anticipated a baby.
15. God wants His goodness for us—but He wants it His way!

C. God is worthy; therefore, He is the only One to receive glory.

1. You are worthy for you created everything. (Revelation 4:11)
2. God is able to deliver us out of anything.
3. If we are not delivered, are we still going to serve Him?
4. Do everything to the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)
5. God received Glory.
  - a. For Joseph's life
  - b. For Lazarus resurrection
  - c. For Isaac's birth
  - d. For the fall of Jericho