Munroe, Myles
In Pursuit of Purpose

13. The Priority of Purpose

This chapter argues that purpose comes before creation and governs everything about a thing. Just as a manufacturer designs a product for a specific purpose, God designed each person with the exact nature, talents, and provisions needed to fulfill why they were made. Knowing your purpose unlocks your potential.

Key takeaways

- Purpose determines function, function necessitates design, and design predicts potential. What you are and how you are were set by why you are.
- God never requires anything of His creations that He didn't already build into them. Your natural abilities match your purpose.
- You naturally love and are good at what you were made to do, so discovering your purpose is really discovering yourself.
- God provides for His purposes, not our plans. Whatever He assigns, He supplies the resources to accomplish.

- The Church often struggles because it asks God to bless plans He never made instead of fulfilling its real purpose: to be His 'called-out ones' who reveal His nature.
- God's promises are only as reliable as God Himself, and they are tied to His purpose, not to our circumstances or our plans.

Passages worth keeping

> *"What God calls for He provides for."*
>
> The chapter's core promise: assignment and provision always come together.

> *"The discovery of purpose is the discovery of you."*
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> Captures the link between God's design and personal identity.

How it connects

Abraham and Sarah's impatience (producing Ishmael) illustrates the chapter's warning: human plans cannot change God's purposes, and His promises outlast every self-made shortcut.

Scripture referenced

- **Exodus 4:2-4, 11-12** -- God shows Moses the ability for his assignment was already in him (the staff; 'Who gives man his mouth?').
- **Matthew 16:17-18** -- The Church as God's 'called-out ones' (ecclesia), too powerful for hell to overcome.

- **Ephesians 3:10** -- The Church is meant to reveal God's 'manifold' (many-colored) wisdom.
- **Galatians 4:23** -- Isaac born by divine promise vs. Ishmael by the flesh—God backs His purpose, not our plans.