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LAUNCH YOUR FAITH

SAILING TOGETHER INTO GOD'S AMAZING PURPOSE!

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Part 2: Seizing God's Purpose Philippians 3:12

"I believe." As we learned in our series on *Engaging the Heart* (based on The Apostle's Creed), it's a phrase we use in so many areas of our lives, from opinions about the outcome of athletic events to our relationship with God; from things of little consequence or importance to matters of great and eternal significance.

We examined what authentic belief looks like: it involves the *mind* (recognition of the Truth about the Object of my faith); the *emotions* (embracing the relevance of my faith's Object to my need); and the *will* (actually relying on God with my actions). In other words, my entire being, my whole heart is to be engaged in my faith walk with God!

In this series, *Launch Your Faith*, we are exploring the implications of our belief that we explored during the last few months. We will continue to ask growth-producing questions about our faith. What does it mean to actually rely on God? What does it mean for us to actually "launch" our belief, to launch our faith?

These six weeks comprise one of the most important seasons in Woodmen Valley's history. *Launch Your Faith* is providing a defining moment for every one of us. As we step into the future in our individual walks with Christ and in our journey and ministry as a community, it inevitably will be a step of faith. When following Jesus Christ, when growing in our amazement over His grace, when exploring, experiencing, and expressing His grace, faith is not optional. *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.* (Hebrews 11:6)

We are discovering that launching our faith is intimately related with God's purpose in our lives. When I live out my belief, when I live by faith, I enter into a way of living that is motivated and governed by God's purpose, a way of living that is a response to all that He is. Therefore, when we live out our belief, we change the cadence of our lives from one of convenience to one of calling. Whether it is a matter of trusting Him for strength to take the next step and fulfill His purpose, or for tools to enable us to fulfill His purpose, it always involves faith. Living by faith means living according to God's purpose and living according to God's purpose means living by faith!

Last week we learned that the foundation of being able to *discern* God's purpose is to respond to His grace with all that we are and all that we have. As human beings, we have been created for the ultimate purpose of pleasing and glorifying God! Today we will look at the privilege we are given to *seize* His purpose in order to bring Him glory and experience immense fulfillment as a result.

I will begin to seize God's purpose when I submit to at least five reasons He has, for His glory, taken hold of me:

1. To enjoy His _____ with me.
2. To see His _____ with me.
3. To establish His _____ around me.
4. To extend His _____ through me.
5. To reveal His _____ for me.