

A 90-DAY DEVOTIONAL

A
MAN
OF
PURPOSE
AND
POWER

DR. MYLES MUNROE



WHITAKER
HOUSE

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The forms *LORD* and *GOD* (in small capital letters) in Bible quotations represent the Hebrew name for God *Yahweh* (Jehovah), while *Lord* and *God* normally represent the name *Adonai*, in accordance with the Bible version used.

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A 90-Day Devotional

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INTRODUCTION

For thirty years, Dr. Myles Munroe studied, counseled, and guided thousands of individuals to live lives of personal fulfillment and social and spiritual well-being. The knowledge and experience he gained led him to the conclusion that the central principle of life is *purpose*. Yet, as he described in his book *Understanding the Purpose and Power of Men*, today, “many men are questioning who they are and what roles they are to play in life. On the surface, they may be following customary life pursuits, such as working, marrying, and having a family. Yet they have an inner uncertainty about what it means to be a man, a husband, and a father.

“What is causing this uncertainty? A major reason is that society is sending out conflicting signals about what it means to be a man. Traditional views of masculinity compete side by side with new ideas of manhood in the marketplace of ideas—each vying for supremacy....

“Historically, men have defined their manhood by the various roles they have fulfilled for their families and for society. Now that

these roles are in transition, they don't have a solid definition of masculinity to give them a cultural context for life. As a result, many men believe they have lost part of themselves, but they don't have anything concrete with which to replace it. Often, they don't even feel wanted or needed by women any longer. They used to have clear direction about where they were going as men. Now, it's as if they're trapped in a maze, frustrated and unable to move forward purposefully in life....

"People can go for years without realizing they aren't fulfilling their true purpose. Both individuals and cultures can become comfortable following established roles without questioning their validity. However, our socially turbulent society is forcing us to examine the underlying foundation of our concepts of maleness and femaleness. In this sense, we can look at this crisis as a powerful opportunity for self-discovery and self-actualization. It is up to us to make accurate tests of the soundness of both traditional and contemporary ideas of what it means to be male and female, and then to relay a strong foundation for society."

Dr. Munroe came to the conclusion that "male identity is not essentially a matter of *roles*, which vary with culture and shift with changing times—it is a matter of *inherent purpose*." He wrote, "How do we measure a man? What is true manhood? How do you define masculinity? What is true male sexuality? What is the true purpose of the male in relation to the female? Is there a universal definition of manhood? Can it be attained? Where do we go to get this definition?"

"This book addresses answers to these critical questions from the perspective of the male. The purpose and role of the male in the scheme of human experience is explored through returning to the original process of his creation, based on the premise that no one knows the product like the manufacturer. No product can understand its identity by asking the customer, because only the manufacturer knows the original purpose and potential of his product. Therefore, it is imperative that the male rediscover his

original purpose and understand his true potential, as well as gain a clear understanding of his principal function within the human family.

“The male is the key to building strong, enduring social infrastructures, stable families, sane societies, and secure nations. It is critical that the subject of the male’s crisis be a priority for men, women, and national governments, so that we can secure progressive social developments within the countries of the world. Let us begin our journey through the land of cultural confusion to rediscover the purpose and power of the real male.”

From his study of the Scriptures, Dr. Munroe believed that men have a unique purpose in God’s plan for the world. As you progress through these ninety devotionals, you will discover biblical truths and principles that explain men’s distinct and complementary design to women and find practical application for implementing what you learn into your daily life.

Also featured are daily Scripture readings, with one Old Testament passage and one New Testament passage for each day. Since we find our purpose only in the mind of our Maker, it is essential to read His “Manual,” as Dr. Munroe liked to call the Bible, for ourselves in order to clearly see the revelation of His purposes. We must allow God’s Word to dwell richly in our hearts so that, as we meditate on and absorb Scripture, it truly becomes a part of our lives.

Whenever we study the Word of God, we should also pray and ask God for wisdom. The Holy Spirit is our Teacher, and we need to ask Him to illuminate the Word and give us insight.

You can discover how to live according to God’s plan, so you can become all you were created to be as a unique man made in His image—*A Man of Purpose and Power*. May God bless you in your relationship with Him and with those He has placed in your life as you fulfill that distinct purpose.

— DAY 1 —

DO YOU KNOW WHERE
YOU'RE HEADED?

*"In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD
establishes their steps."* —Proverbs 16:9

I was driving along an undeveloped street near my home one day when I saw a large sign with a beautifully painted picture of a building. The sign said, COMING SOON. I sensed the Holy Spirit saying to me, "Did you see that?" I asked, "See what?" He said, "Did you see the finish?" I came back around to take another look at the painting, and the Holy Spirit continued, "If you were to see the men working on that project, digging up all the mud and muck, making big holes, and if you were to ask them what they were doing, they would say, 'We are building that.' They could tell you exactly where they were headed." I have never forgotten that lesson.

I have some questions for you: Is your life similar to that? If someone were to ask you where you're going, could you answer that you're headed somewhere? Could you specify where? Are you so clear about your dream that you could paint a picture of it?

If you know where you're going, then when someone doesn't understand the reason for "the mud, the muck, the water, and the hole," it doesn't matter. Everything might look in disarray, but you know it is part of the process. And when you're in the midst of the process, your life might not seem like it's becoming anything. But take careful note: there's a painting of you. God has painted it for you in His Word. Anytime you get bogged down, every time you get discouraged, you can look at that painting.

We may be able to see the outcome of God's purposes for our lives twenty years into the future—or only one day ahead. Yet if we are living in God's plans for us, we have found the key to our existence.

Dear Father, You are the Creator, the Maker of all things—including me. You have a purpose for my creation beyond anything I can easily understand. Help me to keep my eyes upon You and Your Word as You reveal my purpose on this earth. In Jesus's name, amen.



Thought: If someone were to ask you where you're going in life, what would you answer?

Readings: Proverbs 16:1–20; Ephesians 5:15–20