



PURPOSE, LEADERSHIP, AND UNITY

with Lawrence Scott

▶ FOCUS VERSES

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.
Romans 12:4-5

▶ DISCUSSION

- 1. Have you ever felt intimidated by your family's legacy, or like you weren't up to the task of carrying on the family name in business, faith, community leadership, etc.?**
 - a. What in particular did you think you wouldn't be able to do?
 - b. Looking back, what new skills, traits, or ideas could you have brought to the table?
- 2. As a child, did you ever have a moment like Lawrence had with his fourth-grade teacher, where a mentor or authority figure inspired you to do better or aim higher?**
 - a. Who was that person and what was it they did that made such an impression on you?
- 3. Are you the kind of person who likes to work in groups, or the kind of person who likes to work alone and handle everything yourself? (See in James 4:6.)**



- a. Have you ever been in a situation where you had no choice but to work collaboratively?
- b. How did that experience humble you?
- c. What did you learn from it?

4. Talk about the church environments you've experienced over the course of your life.

- a. Which ones helped you feel fulfilled and purposeful, and which ones left you feeling like you were just “going through the motions”?
- b. What did the more fulfilling churches do that the other ones didn't?

5. In talking about how men can use their influence to help others, Lawrence says, “Your purpose is the answer to a problem.”

- a. Which problem—in your community, in society in general, or even in your own family—could you provide a solution to?
- b. What ideas do you have for making life better for others that you haven't tried to share?
- c. What's been keeping you from offering those ideas?

6. Have you ever been in a situation like the one Lawrence found himself in after his football injury, in which unforeseen circumstances forced you to re-evaluate your purpose? (See *Jeremiah 29:11*.)



- a. Was there anything about your new purpose that was difficult to accept?
- b. Was there anything about that purpose that eventually proved to be more rewarding than you'd expected?

7. Thinking back to the church experiences you discussed in question 4, which of those churches focused most intently on following Jesus's example of love and forgiveness, and which ones spent the most time finding fault in other people, churches, or denominations?

- a. What impressions did these churches leave you with?
- b. How did they make you feel personally, particularly in terms of your relationship with God?

8. Do you consider yourself a person with good leadership skills?

- a. Why or why not?
- b. What are some qualities or practices of good leadership you'd like to improve in yourself, and do you know anyone who could serve as a good role model in that regard, or who could connect you with resources for improving your own leadership abilities?

