

Message

Title: Built For Glory

Speaker: Pastor Dom O'Connell

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“You weren’t built for success or comfort—you were built to bear God’s image and live for His glory in everything.”

Introduction

Choose one area of your life this week—work, family, finances, or habits—and intentionally align it to bring glory to God.

Have you been chasing a purpose built around your skills and happiness instead of God’s glory and His image in you?

We often ask, *“What is my purpose?”* and rush to our gifts, careers, or what makes us happy for the answer. In *“Built For Glory”*, Pastor Dom O’Connell takes us back to Scripture to show that our deepest purpose is not something we invent, but something we receive. From Genesis 1 we see that we are created, intentionally, in the image of God—set apart from the rest of creation to reflect who He is. Isaiah 43 then reveals why: we were *“formed for His glory”*. Our identity isn’t rooted in what we can do, but in whose image we bear and whose glory we live for.

Building on this, Colossians 3:23 shows how our purpose plays out in real life: *“whatever”* we do is to be done “with all our heart, as for the Lord.” Pastor Dom challenges us to let Scripture form us (not just confirm us), to take sin seriously because it distorts God’s image in us, and to stop tying our purpose to our skills, job titles, or fleeting happiness. Instead, we are invited into a lifelong, practical pursuit: bringing glory to God in every facet of our lives—home, work, relationships, money, and the unseen moments when no one else is watching.



Scripture

Genesis 1:26–27 (NIV) — Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Isaiah 43:5–7 (NIV) — “Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

Colossians 3:23 (NIV) — Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV) — And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Jeremiah 18:6 (NIV) — He said, “Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?” declares the LORD. “Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel.”

Don’t Miss This

- **You Are Created, Not Accidental:** Genesis 1 reminds us that we are intentionally created in the image of God. You are not a random product of chance—you carry a God-given design and dignity that sets you apart from the rest of creation.
- **Your Primary Purpose Is God’s Glory:** Isaiah 43:7 is clear: we are “created for My glory.” Being a good parent, friend, or professional matters, but all of that sits under one foundational calling—to live every part of life in a way that honours and reveals God.
- **Purpose Isn’t Your Skill Set:** Colossians 3:23 shows that whatever we do can become worship when done for the Lord. Your gifts, job, and passions are not your purpose; they are tools. Your true purpose is to use all of them to reflect God’s character and bring Him glory.



Let's Chat

1. When you think about your purpose in life, what have you usually based it on—skills, success, happiness, or something else? How does Genesis 1 challenge or affirm that?
2. Pastor Dom said sin is doing what God hates and that it pulls us away from our reason for being. Can you think of an example where sin has distorted God's image in you or in a situation you've seen?
3. Isaiah 43:7 says we are created for God's glory. Practically speaking, what might it look like for your family life, work life, or friendships to be more intentionally about God's glory?
4. Colossians 3:23 calls us to work with all our hearts as for the Lord. What would change tomorrow if you truly saw your job, studies, or daily tasks as service to Jesus rather than just to people?
5. Where have you tied your sense of identity and purpose too tightly to a particular role, talent, or season? What step could you take this week to re-centre your purpose on being an image-bearer who lives for God's glory?

