

Listen to the words of a popular book:

“It’s not about you. The purpose of your life is far greater than your own personal fulfillment, your peace of mind, or even your happiness. It’s far greater than your family, your career, or even your wildest dreams and ambitions. If you want to know why you were placed on this planet, you must begin with God. You were born by God’s purpose and for God’s purpose.”

These ideas underlie all 3 readings.

The 1st reading isn’t about Jeremiah, but the call to preach even when laughed at and ridiculed.

The 2nd reading isn’t about Paul, but the challenge to discern God’s will. The Gospel isn’t what Peter wants, but Jesus’ faithfulness to God.

Saying life isn’t about us need not be a bummer nor a downer. No!

The Good News is: in so many ways, we are already living the message of the readings.

PARENTS are attentive to their children. MARRIED COUPLES focus on the other. FRIENDS are concerned about each other’s well-being.

We gather each week to praise and worship God. We thank God for the gifts and blessings we have received. During the week we reach out to the weak, sick and dying. We actively respond to the hungry, poor and needy.

We might be amazed to find out how often during the day we think of others. We let someone go ahead of us. We decide to phone someone just to check in and connect. We write a note to one who has come to mind. We ask a neighbor if we can get them anything from the grocery store because we are going there. The list is endless.

My sisters and brothers: Continue living as disciples of the Lord. Continue listening to the call of the Lord. Continue loving as Jesus did.