



## Purpose 5

**Purpose of the Elders Discipleship Group:** To Train and Equip Discipleship Group leaders to lead more effectively.

**Key Theme:** Purpose.

**Key Truth:** Presented to Christ as a pure virgin.

**Key Scripture:** *2 Corinthians 11:2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.*

**Read:** Paul wants to present the church as a pure virgin to her husband, the Christ. One that has never been with the world. This is all part of God's purpose for us as His people, just like becoming His disciple is. Becoming a disciple and becoming a pure virgin are one and the same thing.

Paul's ministry was to labour for the church, that she would know her purpose and be presented as a pure virgin to the one who truly loves her with a love that is of heaven.

We are betrothed (to join, to fit, to join oneself to) to Christ, not another human or a possession, but to Christ, our husband. Let this marinate in your spirit. Can we hear this? To be presented to Christ!!!!!! How will we look? All worn and tatty or radiant and spotless?

Paul has a godly jealousy that we would all realise why God created us primarily. Paul has a revealed understanding of God's primary purpose for His church and he has given his life that anyone else who has ears to hear it and eyes to see it, will also want it and give their life like him for others to receive it.

He is in fear that the Corinthian church has been led astray in their minds from this devoted relationship to Christ and that they easily and readily accept another Jesus, another gospel, that sounds similar, but is not. He compares this deception to the fall of Eve in the garden. Only a life that is devoted to Christ will receive all that is in Christ.

Let's be honest. Jesus marrying a bride sounds quite ridiculous, especially to us men, and yet God's entire wisdom appears complete foolishness to the world. God's wisdom is from another reality and realm and it appears absolute nonsense and gobbledygook to the world and our flesh. That's the point. It is.

We are going to be presented to Christ and not another human being, but to Christ. In the natural a father walks his daughter down the aisle and presents his earthly daughter to her earthly groom for the purpose of marriage. In the spiritual, we are going to be presented to Christ for our eternal marriage. As we know there were 10 virgins, 5 wise and 5 foolish. They are all of Christ but only 5 entered into the fulfilment of the marriage covenant. Let us be virgins who seek all that the Father has in store for us so we are able to partake of our inheritance in Christ.

### Questions:

1. What is your current revealed understanding of what it means to be presented to Christ as a pure virgin?
2. Why is it so essential we become these pure virgins?
3. What is the connection between becoming a pure virgin and having a devoted relationship to Christ?
4. Paul was very concerned that the church at Corinth had been led astray in their minds from being in a devoted relationship to Christ and that they readily accepted another Jesus, a different spirit and a different gospel. How much of this do you think goes on today and how destructive is this to becoming a pure virgin?



5. How does one become this mature, faithful and obedient pure virgin?
6. Why is it essential we understand this is God's purpose for us and become this pure virgin?

**Action:** What is one thing you may need to put in place from going through this resource?