CATCHING UP SESSION 1 YOU MATTER TO GOD If this is your first time to meet together as a group, or if you have any new members, be sure to introduce yourselves. **MEMORY VERSE** Before you jump into this study, we recommend that you review the "Note to Life Group HOSTs" "I am your Creator. You · What are you hoping to get out of this study of were in my care even WHAT ON EARTH AM I HER FOR? before you were born." Isaiah 44:2a (CEV) The Question of Existence: Why Am I Alive? "Why was I born? Was it only to have trouble and sorrow, to end my life in disgrace?" Jeremiah 20:18 (TEV) You were made by God and for God's purposes, and until you understand that, life will never make sense. "The Lord has made everything for his own purpose." Proverbs 16:4a (GW) GOD CREATED ME TO The Question of Significance: Does My Life Matter? "My work all seems so useless! I have spent my strength for nothing and to no purpose at all." Isaiah 49:4 (NLT) "I am your Creator. You were in my care even before you were born." Isaiah 44:2a (CEV) You are not an accident. There are accidental parents, but there are no accidental births. There are illegitimate parents, but there are no illegitimate children. There are unplanned pregnancies, but there are no unpurposed people. God wanted you in this world. You are not an accident! "You, [God], saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in your book!" Psalm 139:16 (TLB) "His plans endure forever; his purposes last eternally." Psalm 33:11 (TEV) Life is preparation for eternity. I WAS MADE TO "When this tent we live in - our body here on earth - is torn down, God will have a house in heaven for us to live in, a home he himself made, which will last forever." 2 Corinthians 5:1 (TEV) The Question of Intention: What is My Purpose? "Why did you create us? For nothing?" Psalm 89:47b (NCV) The only way to know your purpose is to ask your Creator. "Knowing God results in every other kind of understanding." Proverbs 9:10b (TLB)

I FIND MY PURPOSE _____

"For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible... everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him." Colossians 1:16 (MSG)

Life is not about you; it's all about God.

"It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for... part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone." Ephesians 1:11-12 (MSG)

if you live to be seventy years old, you will live 25,550 days. Don't you think its worth just forty of those days to find out what you're supposed to do with the rest of them?

"It makes no difference who your are or where you're from — if you want God and you are ready to do so as he says, the door is open." Acts 10:35 (MSG)

"God created me to love me." When did you first hear about God's love?	"I find my purpose in God." As you embark on this journey of discovery, how ready are you to explore the truth about God's purposes for your life?
"I was made to last forever." How does that statement strike you? Are you encouraged, puzzled, disappointed, surprised?	"Life is not about you; it's all about God." What difference could it make if I acted like life is all about God and not about myself?

LIVING ON PURPOSE

Reading Partner: A central component of this study is the daily readings that you will receive in your email. Take a moment to pair with someone in your group to be your reading partner. A little encouragement and friendly accountability can help you stay on your reading schedule. We recommend that the men partner with men and women with women. Check in with your reading partner throughout the week or at your group meetings to share what you are learning, and to encourage each other in your progress throughout the study.

We don't want to be just hearers of the Word. We also need to be doers of the Word. This section of the study contains application exercises that will help your group apply the things you are learning. Be sure to leave time each week for this material.

PRAYER DIRECTION

- Pray for your group's prayer requests.
- Record these request on your journal.

DIVING DEEPER

- Read the daily readings we sent to you everyday via email.
- Read the Memory Verse everyday this week as part of your daily devotions. See if you can memorize it before your next Life Group Meeting.
- Visit <u>agapechurchofsandiego.org</u> to watch weekly Sermons and to access more free resources.

BEFORE YOU GO

- Create you Life Group Calendar to agree on meetings dates, time and location. Healthy groups share responsibilities and group ownership. Designate who will facilitate your meeting. Who will provide a meal or snack.
- In your Group Calendar, note special events, socials, or days off as well. Your Life Group HOST will be very appreciative and everyone will have a lot more fun together.
- Also, start collecting basic contact information like phone numbers and email addresses. Create you Life Group Roster to record these information.