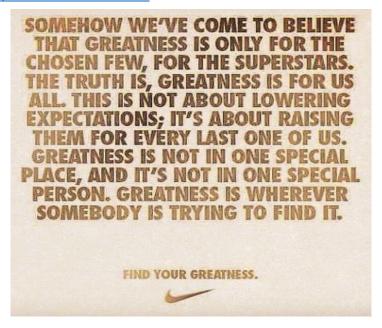
Sunday morning service

Eugene Maree

# https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XcbSCnUXOkk



## IS GREATNESS REALLY...

- **✗** Just something we made up?
- ★ A gift reserved for a chosen few for prodigies?
- **★** A gift reserved for superstars?
- ★ Leaving the rest of us to stand by watching?

# YOU CAN FORGET THAT...

- **★** Greatness is not some rare DNA strand!
- ★ It's not some precious thing!
- **★** Greatness is no more unique to us than breathing!
- **★** We are all capable of it!
- **★** ALL OF US!



#### **GREATNESS ...**

- ★ What on earth am I here for?
  - + Is life more than work?
  - + Is it more than food?
  - + More than sleep?
  - + What is it that is driving my life?

### What is it that is driving my life?

- **✗** Guilt, anger, resentment, fear?
- **★** We allow our past to control our future.
- **★** Satan is happy when we allow our past to consume our present.
- **★** We are products of our past but we do not need to be prisoners of our past.
- **★** We become bitter and we allow our past to continue to hurt us.
- **★** Are you driven by material possessions or approval?
- **★** We too often think life is all about what we can acquire.
- **★** By getting more and more or by pleasing everyone will we have the approval of everyone?
- **★** This is an exhausting way to live.

#### What on earth am I here for?

# **Ephesians 1:11-12 (MSG)**

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, He had His eye on us, had designs on us for **glorious living**, part of the overall purpose He is working out in everything and everyone.

## Who am I? Do I matter to anyone? What am I here for?

- **★** You were planned for God's pleasure.
- **★** You were formed for God's family.
- ✗ You were created to become like Christ.
  - + God's plan has been to make you into the image of His Son, Jesus.
  - + His ultimate goal for us is character development.
    - **X** Love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness.
  - + To achieve greatness we need to become more like Christ every day.
  - + You were shaped for serving God.
- X You were made for a Mission.

## God's mould for greatness...

- **≭** His word
  - + God provides the truth we need to grow through His written word. The Bible.
- **★** His people
  - + God provides the support we need to grow through His people.
  - + Our Circumstances.
  - + God provides the circumstances we need to enable us to become more like Him.

# 7 Steps to Find Your greatness...

- **★** Turn to the Bible.
- \* Pray For Direction.
- **★** Follow the Will of God.
  - + **Proverbs 19:21** Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.
  - + Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

### X Promises of God

- + Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.
- + Romans 8:28–29 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;
- + James 1:17 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.
- **★** Live a Purpose Driven Life.
- **★** Understand how to apply this across your life.
- **★** Set a personal challenge.

### Hebrews 12:1-3 (MSG)

Discipline in a Long-Distance Race

Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honour, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he ploughed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!



The word 'nike' is Greek for victorious.

God has given us everything we need to live a glorious and victorious life – a life of GREATNESS.