



Purpose and Legacy Reflection

What Are You Building Over Time?

A guided reflection for examining calling, service, responsibility, impact, and the legacy being shaped through repeated decisions over time.

Purpose

Purpose is not only a future assignment or a single hidden answer. It is often connected to what God has placed in your life, what you have learned through experience, what keeps requiring your attention, and what needs to be developed with maturity and stewardship.

This reflection is designed to help you examine what is already being formed through your decisions, responsibilities, service, skills, and obedience. It is not written to force a dramatic conclusion. It is written to help you notice patterns, name what matters, and identify what may need clearer stewardship.

How to use this reflection

- Move through the sections slowly. The goal is not to finish quickly. The goal is to answer with enough substance to notice patterns.
- Use the examples as prompts, not as a list you must fully complete.
- Write what is true in this season, not what sounds impressive.
- Pay attention to repeated themes across faith, character, work, service, responsibility, and impact.
- Use the final snapshot to choose one area that needs attention, development, or a practical decision.

Before you begin

Do not try to define your entire life purpose in one sentence. That can create pressure instead of insight. Begin by looking at what is already present: the responsibilities you carry, the burdens you notice, the people you serve, the skills you use, and the decisions that are shaping your life over time.

This resource is not asking you to label everything as a calling. It is asking you to examine what may need to be developed, ordered, corrected, continued, or released.

Scripture for reflection: Psalm 90:17, KJV

“And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.”

Reflection: Ask God to help you see what should be established, what needs development, and what should not continue to consume your time or strength.

Section 1: What has been placed in your life?

Purpose and legacy are not only connected to what you hope to do later. They are also connected to what has already been placed in your life. That may include experience, skill, responsibility, hardship, wisdom, opportunity, or a burden for people and problems you keep noticing.

Use this section to take inventory without turning every interest into an assignment. The goal is to identify what may need attention, development, or clearer stewardship.

Area to review	Examples to consider	What has been placed in your life?	What may need attention or development?
Experiences	Seasons, work, losses, responsibilities, or lessons that shaped what you understand.		
Skills and abilities	Things you can build, teach, organize, explain, create, manage, or improve.		
Burdens or concerns	Needs, problems, people, or issues you continue to notice.		
Responsibilities	Family, work, service, finances, leadership, or commitments already in your hands.		
Opportunities	Doors, conversations, ideas, requests, or invitations that require discernment.		
Wisdom gained	Lessons learned through difficulty, obedience, correction, or experience.		

Which area stands out most right now, and why?

Section 2: What are you building over time?

Legacy is not only what is remembered at the end of life. It is also what is being formed through repeated decisions today. Your habits, commitments, words, work, service, and stewardship are already building something.

Use this section to examine what those repeated decisions are producing. Are they forming the kind of life, responsibility, service, and impact you say matters, or are they mostly shaped by urgency, distraction, avoidance, or the demands of the moment?

The goal is not to judge your whole life from one season. The goal is to identify what is being formed over time and where your decisions may need to be brought back into alignment with what you are called to carry, build, and leave behind.

How to complete the table: Look at each area and ask, “What are my repeated choices, habits, or responses producing here?” Evidence may include repeated behavior, decisions, conversations, delays, progress, unresolved issues, or responsibilities that keep showing up.

Area	Examples to consider	What are your current patterns producing?	What needs correction or development?
Faith and obedience	Consistency, delayed obedience, trust, distance, surrender, or avoidance.		
Character and discipline	Follow-through, self-control, patience, reactions, consistency, or unfinished commitments.		
Family and relationships	Communication patterns, conflict, distance, support, repair, boundaries, or availability.		
Work, business, or service	Growth, scattered effort, reliability, delayed responsibility, stronger execution, or unused gifts.		
Money and responsibility	Order, pressure, delayed decisions, better stewardship, avoidable strain, or unfinished obligations.		

Area	Examples to consider	What are your current patterns producing?	What needs correction or development?
Influence and impact	Encouragement, service, reliability, inconsistency, humility, wisdom, or what others receive from your presence and work.		

Scripture for reflection: Galatians 6:7, KJV

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

Reflection: Repeated choices produce something. Ask God to help you see what is being sown through your habits, responsibilities, and decisions.

Section 3: Purpose requires development

A burden, gift, or idea may point toward purpose, but it still requires development. Desire alone does not create readiness. Development may involve skill, discipline, spiritual maturity, emotional maturity, stewardship, communication, consistency, counsel, or a better understanding of the need you want to serve.

Use this section to identify where preparation is needed. This is not a test of worth. It is a practical review of what must be developed before greater responsibility is carried.

What may be connected to purpose	What development may be required?	What is one practical step?
A skill or gift	Training, practice, feedback, consistency, or a clearer way to use it.	
A burden for people or a problem	Understanding the need, learning before leading, or serving in a smaller way first.	
A leadership responsibility	Humility, communication, accountability, patience, or stronger follow-through.	
A business, ministry, or service idea	Structure, timing, capacity, resources, counsel, and a realistic starting point.	
A personal testimony or life experience	Wisdom, healing, discretion, language, and readiness before sharing publicly.	

What needs development before you carry more responsibility?

Section 4: Service, impact, and responsibility

Purpose should not remain centered only on personal fulfillment. What you are called to carry will usually connect to service, responsibility, and the effect your life has on others. That does not mean everything has to be public, large, or visible. It means purpose should produce something useful, faithful, and responsible.

Use this section to think about who may be served by what you are developing and what responsibility comes with that service. The goal is not to create pressure. The goal is to connect purpose to stewardship, not only desire.

Question	Your reflection
Who could be served, strengthened, taught, supported, or helped by what you are developing?	
What problem, need, or gap do you keep noticing?	
What responsibility would come with serving in this area?	
What would need to be developed before others could depend on it?	
What would be the cost of ignoring what has been placed in your hands?	

Scripture for reflection: 1 Peter 4:10, KJV

“As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”

Reflection: Gifts are not only for possession. They are to be stewarded in a way that serves others well.

Section 5: What should continue, change, or be released?

Not everything connected to your life needs to continue in the same form. Some things need to be developed. Some need to be corrected. Some need to be released because they are no longer aligned with the responsibility, service, or growth required in this season.

Use this section to separate what should continue from what needs a different decision. The purpose is not to force a quick conclusion. The purpose is to identify what requires more attention, order, or obedience.

Area	Continue	Change	Release	Why?
Commitments				
Habits				
Responsibilities				
Relationships or influences				
Ideas or opportunities				
Service or ministry involvement				

Scripture for reflection: Proverbs 16:3, KJV

“Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.”

Reflection: Ask God to establish what should continue and give you wisdom about what needs change, correction, or release.

Section 6: Purpose and legacy snapshot

Use this final page to summarize what you noticed. Do not write what sounds impressive. Write what is true enough to guide the next practical decision.

What appears to be placed in my hands in this season?

What am I currently building through repeated decisions?

What needs to be developed before greater responsibility is carried?

Who or what may be served if this is stewarded well?

What needs to continue, change, or be released?

One practical decision I can make within the next 30 days:
