

Torrey 2002 Serving God

By Francis Chan

I'd like to thank all the people who have helped me out with card sliding and seems like an easy task, but it's been a little bit more difficult than I thought. I thank the speaker so much. And I know that you guys have all enjoyed Francis as much as I have. So personally, I'd like to thank you and also from Biola. I'd love to have you back any time. So let's give Francis a round of applause as he comes.

Last night, I got a call from this lady at my church who her husband's dying of cancer, pancreatic cancer, if you know anything about pancreatic cancer, you know, there's not a whole lot of hope. And he's dying. He's not a believer, though, and he's 72 years old. And she says, will you come over to my house and talk to him? I said, absolutely. You know, I mean, this guy is going to die any day and he's going to be going to hell unless he believes in the gospel.

And so I told her, I go any time, any time of the day, whatever I am doing, I will leave and go and speak to him. And so I went over there last night and start talking to this guy and I had never met him before. He'd come to the church like once or twice. And basically he says to me, because, you know, I don't know what my wife told you, but basically I didn't ask for you to come, OK? She this is all her idea. That's just something that she wants. And and I love my wife and I want to appease her and I will do anything for her. But from what I understand, I can't just believe what she believes just to make her happy.

I've got to believe it myself and I don't. And so I went through the gospel with them and started sharing with them and and there was just no interest. I go. I go. Do you do you think at all about eternal things? I mean, you recognize that any day you're going to die and does that even make you think about what's on the other side? And he says, honestly, no.

And to me, that was so hard to understand because my mind's thinking, man, if I'm getting close to the end of my life, isn't that all I'll be thinking about? And yet he says, no, that's not the way I've ever looked at life. I just think about, well, you know, I've lived seventy two years on this earth. It's been a good run. I've had as much fun as I can. You know, today I was able to get out and play a round of golf. And, you know, I'm just going to try to live it up until, you know, it's over. And then once it's over, it's just over. And I said, so when your hard, you don't have any concept of thinking that there might be an eternity, that there could be something after this life.

And he says, I. I just don't think that way. And it was so frustrating, you know, because I was thinking about everything that I was sharing yesterday here in this chapel about how I just want to love this man and, you know, everything I would say to him, it was just like a brick wall.

There was nothing. There was no response. Right up until the end and I shook his hand and I just said, you know, there's nothing else I can say, I don't know what else to say. You don't believe that there's a God, you don't believe there's life after death, and if I'm right about what I believe, then you are going to spend eternity paying for the sins you committed on this earth.

And he just kind of shrugged his shoulders, because I don't know what to tell you. I want to make my wife happy and believe in God like she does, because I know that would make her happy, but I just don't.

And the last thing I left him with was, you know, just that I it kind of surprised me and I just told him, you know, I'm going to pray for you. I am seriously going to pray for you, that God will bring to mind everything that I shared with you tonight, because this is serious. This is real. And I just went home.

You know, you go home from a meeting like that, you just get frustrated and you think in your mind, all the things you could have said, all things you could have said, you think, oh, man, if I had thought of this analogy or this one, or I should have brought some illustrations with me or, you know, whatever, just anything, you know, is there anything I could have done? And you beat yourself up thinking about all the things you could have said, but ultimately you got to come back to the sovereignty of God and say, God, you're the only one that can change a human heart.

And so when I said I will pray for him, I really meant that. And I have been praying. I've been praying all night about I've been praying this morning. And I just thought, you know, this is a little unorthodox, but I just thought, you know what? I just want to shower him with prayer this morning and ask you to pray with me. His name is Harvey.

And I thought, I mean, what what greater way to start concluding the Torrey conference than with us is a body possibly this morning just by insincerely coming before God saying, God, we we beg for this man's soul.

Now, I hardly even know this guy, but God's giving me a heart of compassion for him. And so I would just like us right now just to pray for Harvey. And and again, don't just close your eyes and, you know, and just got through my prayer.

Would you seriously see yourself as doing something right now, as sincerely coming before God in heaven and saying, God, we're begging for this man's soul as any day now? This could be the end. This is huge. I mean, what if that were you how would you want someone else to pray for you? Please do that with me right now. Father, right now, I just I left up Harvey to you God. Right now, this very second lord. May you get him to think about you and think about just the truth of what's about to go on.

Think about judgment and think about coming to your presence, Lord God, only you can get them to think about your grace and your mercy and your son and everything I shared last night, not only your Holy Spirit can bring to mind all the things that were taught. And so, Father, right now, I just beg you, whatever it takes, if it takes him getting extremely sick and nauseous and fearful, God, whatever it takes God today, Lord, this very second, we just come before you right now and beg for this man's soul whom we whom no one even really knows him, God and yet, Lord, we just think about what it would be like. To face eternity without you. And under your wrath of God, so powerful Lord, and we just don't want that for him. And so, God, right now, we are completely helpless without you. Got all of my wisdom, all of my words, they do absolutely nothing without your spirit. So right now, God, I just beg for Harvey's soul. In Jesus name, I pray. Amen, thanks.

You know, in...It's just so weird to me, I mean, I can't get it out of my head, I want to go on with my message, but just the thought of how is it that people don't think about these things? How is it that you can be so close to the end of your life? And I'm sure that some of you in this room that I mean, the truth is we're all dying. I mean, any of us today could be the last day of our lives and and things that seem so obvious to me.

And I go, gosh, how can you care about anything else if you're not sure about your eternal salvation? And yet, I'm sure there are people in this room that you just it's not a big deal to you. There are other things on your mind. And I just go, I don't get that. I don't get it. And I will continue to pray for those of you in this room that still look at this and go, yeah, you know, here are a couple of messages.

Go to a Christian school. But in your heart, you're not even sure of your salvation and it's not a big deal to you. Did you sometimes just go, I don't get that, because this is so huge, we're talking about heaven and hell, and yet some are more concerned about what they're going to eat for lunch. And it's it's just it just baffles me. It's been on my mind all night just thinking, how do you how do you get through? I just I guess you just can't.

I mean, as the Bible says, there's there's in First Corinthians to how there's those the natural the natural man can't understand the things of the spirit of God, the things that to us just seems so wise and so obvious. And so I just encourage you to keep praying for those who just don't get it yet, because God's the only one that can get their attention. I don't know exactly how I came to the Lord. I mean, God God just did it. God just brought me to that place. And I think we can all say the same thing. Sure, we can remember the moment, but it's not about circumstances. It's just about God doing what he does. And so seriously, just continue praying for those that you love that don't have an interest in spiritual things.

You know, in August, I did something I've never done before. I actually took the whole month of August off from church. I've never taken a long vacation. I just never really believed in vacations. I always thought I was for a weak people. And but, you know, it just got to the point where, man, I just needed one. And I just thought, you know, I'm going to take the whole month of August off because the reason is, is and maybe you can relate to this, I started getting into a rut in life. And I hate that, you know, the routine where you just kind of you kind of just go through the motions day after day.

You would do that. You just wake up, you hit the alarm clock just like yesterday. It kind of just, you know, crawl over to the sink, brush your teeth, jump in the shower, OK? And I get in my car, I go to my class. I do this, I do this, I do this. And it's just another day. And it just seemed like, OK, another day would go by, two days would go by, it was just another week, just another month, and it just seems like life was just kind of happening to me. And I wasn't really thinking through what I was doing. And I just thought, you know, I just need to get away, take a break and just start thinking, what in the world am I doing on this earth? I wasn't getting excited about things like I used to.

And so I just stopped and I just took a month away and just spent some time, the Lord spent some time with my family, spent some time just away from the daily routine and said, God, just refresh me.

And there was this passage of scripture that that just was on the tip of my mind the whole time in ministered to me more than any other passage in Scripture and gave me a whole new excitement about living again.

And it's in Jeremiah, Chapter one, Jeremiah Chapter one. It's in the calling of Jeremiah. And it is it is so powerful. And I just want to share with it to share you share with you today.

Let me give you some background real quick. Jeremiah is Jeremiah the prophet. Jeremiah is speaking to the southern kingdom of Judah, where where they are right there in Jerusalem. OK, and now you know Jerusalem. That's that's God's city, OK? That's where the people of Israel were. They had been for years. And they feel very comfortable there because the temple was there and everything else. And there were a lot of threats and this and that. But they always felt comfortable because they knew how powerful their God was. Well, during the time of Jeremiah. He was there during the reign of Josiah, Josiah was a very good king and got great reforms and everything else, they were following God.

But after Josiah, there were a couple of losers that really took him down hill, really pulled him away from God. And if you ever study the Kings, you know, when Israel has a good king man, things are good. But when they have a bad king, things get really bad. And this is the stage where God is telling Jeremiah, I am so sick of their sin. I am so sick of the sin of these people that I am actually going to tear them out of the land.

OK, now that was huge. God was going to remove his people from the land of Israel. God was going to remove his people from his holy city of Jerusalem. And he's going to let these foreigners come in and take over this land. That was huge. And God was giving Jeremiah that message. And he says, I need you to tell the Israelites that I'm about to judge them. I'm about to yank them out of their land. Now, while Jeremiah is trying to preach that message, though, all of the other prophets were preaching something opposite.

They were people pleasers and they were saying, you know what, God wouldn't do that to us. Don't worry. Don't be scared. God's not really going to judge us and all the people who would they listen to? They listen to everyone else.

But God told Jeremiah, listen, no one's going to listen to you, but I'm telling you, you preach anyways. And for 30 something years, pretty close to 40 years, God told Jeremiah, this is your life, I'm giving you the true message. You're going to go to all these people and preach it and no one's going to listen to you. Think if that was your assignment. For the next 30, 40 years of your life, God gives you a truth to preach on this earth, and that's your job and no one's going to listen to you. And yet God needed a prophet. God needed someone to say, why do we ask Jeremiah to say? And what hit me was, was this calling of Jeremiah and Jeremiah?

Chapter one, look at verse for it says, The word of the Lord came to me saying before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I set you apart. I appointed you as a prophet to the nation's. Those two versus. So powerful to me. I mean, think about it, he says. He says that your mind, he goes, look, before you were even born, before he informed you in the womb, this is what I set you apart to do.

God in his sovereignty knew what was going to happen, and he says, I am going to create this man and have him give this message. And Jeremiah, you are that man. But the phrase that hit me was that first phrase when I was before I formed you in the womb.

I knew you think about that for a second. Just stare at it and think about it. Before I formed you in the womb. I knew you. You see what? What made that so powerful to me? Was when I realized that was true of me. That before God formed me in my mother's womb. He already knew me. Do you believe that about yourself, seriously, think about that right now. Do you really believe. That before you were even formed in your mother's womb.

That God knew you. The God really thought through how he was going to make you. And that he made you exactly the way he wanted to make you. And not only that, but he says that, Jeremiah, before you were born, I set you apart, he was before you even came out of your mother's womb, I already had a plan for you. I already set you apart for this task.

That's an incredible thought. Then before I even came out of my mother's womb, God already had plans for me. He already sent me a part for this very day, this very morning, he knew I would be in this room to give this message to you. He knew you would be in here. This is all a part of his plan.

And he knew all this about me. Before he even put me together in my mother's womb, before I even came out, he had this plan, he told Jeremiah, he goes, look, I set you apart and I appointed you as a prophet to the nation's.

Do you believe that God had a plan when he made you? That you're here on this earth right now for a specific reason. So this was huge when I started thinking this through. Do you believe that you're on this earth right now for a specific reason that God ordained before he even created you in your mother's womb? That he has a purpose for you, he's setting you apart for that. That everything you've experienced in life wasn't just an accident. That your failures even.

God's going to use for a reason. So a lot of times I'll go and I'll speak somewhere, I'll just get on stage and I'll just start talking, I'll just start doing it. Going through the routine business with you, sometimes I don't get my mind totally focused, especially when I got in that rut and I just was gone from one place to another, just talking and not realizing. No, I was made for this set apart for this second.

This moment. The guy would give me a message to give to whomever I'm speaking to. That he ordained before I was even born. For has even created. Do you believe that about yourself? See God didn't just you know, Jeremiah didn't just get born, then halfway through his life, God says, you know, maybe I'll use him for something. No, but that he was specifically created and set apart for a purpose.

That's why he was made he was put on the earth for that. And some of you may read that and say, well, you know, that's true of Jeremiah, but how do we know it's true of me?

Well, the Bible says in the New Testament, the same thing is true of all of us. He says in he says in the Bible, in a in Ephesians, in Ephesians Ephesians chapter two. Ephesians chapter two. Verse 10. Yes, no, Ephesians two, eight, nine, you know, by grace, you can save your faith here, here in Ephesians two, verse 10. It says, for we are God's workmanship. Created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

You think about that, God says that you, you and I, he says we who's we? Who's he talking about?

Those who have been saved by grace, through faith, that we now we are God's workmanship. The God made you and I for a specific purpose. The idea is this masterpiece where you had plans.

We're created in crisis for good works, which he prepared beforehand. So before you were born, God had something that needed to be done and he created you for that task.

Do you believe that? So this is what makes life exciting when you go. I was made for something. Not some loser accident, but God had a purpose, there was something that needed to be done on this earth and he created me to do it, I'm his workmanship, creating in Christ Jesus for these good works, which he prepared beforehand that I should walk in them just like he called Jeremiah, just like he said, Jeremiah, I need someone to speak to the nation of Israel for these 40 years.

This is your task. This is your role. That is just as true of me.

God in heaven made me for a reason. We are his workmanship. You're not an accident. You're specifically made. Word workmanship, some say it can be translated the word masterpiece. It's not something that was just made and then you think, well, what do I do with this now? No, there is a concept in mind. You know what a masterpiece is. This is a masterpiece. All right, it's just you know what this is, right?

Cheese grater. I never had a cheese grater until I college. I never seen one. We just used, you know, knives and stuff and chopsticks. And this this thing, though, the amazing thing is, is there's nothing on this earth like a cheese grater that creates cheese. I mean, it wasn't just this random piece of metal someone found one day. No, he thought through, you know, the world needs an easier way to cut cheese, OK, you know, to make a little shreds and this and that. And so he carefully crafted and makes it and all the little holes and grooves and everything. I mean, you guys are going big deal, trying to make one, OK? It takes some skill, it takes some thought and the whole creativity thing. And you know what? I am going to do that because nothing on this earth works like a cheese grater. I mean, is there any tool in the world that works like this? No, it was designed it was made for that purpose.

You know, I got another thing I found. Do you know what this is? Yeah, an egg yolk separator, I never knew that, I just found out a few months ago. It's like, what's this? You crack an egg in it

and the goose that comes out and the yellow part stays in there and you can throw it out or vice versa.

I think it's cool. OK, but there's the reason why it's so cool is there's nothing like if someone thought through well, I'm tired of getting the spoon and trying to pull the yellow part out and this whole cholesterol scare. So let me make something for that purpose. It was to accomplish a task. See, in the Bible says that all of us were created like that. There was a need. There's a need on this earth. Someone needs to fill this role. So I will make an instrument like that.

And we can complain, we go, wow, I can't grate cheese. Doesn't matter, look what you did with that egg, you know, it doesn't matter, and we start arguing about, oh, but I can't sing like those guys, I can't speak like him. I can't dance like I can't teach like this person. And that person doesn't matter. We don't need another cheese grater. You know, God created you specifically. And sometimes in the Christian world, we end up comparing ourselves to other people and saying, well, I can't do what he does. Well, he can't do what you do. I mean, honestly, is this more important than this? Yeah, because this is greater, all right, stupid, OK, but OK, no, the whole point, you know, the Bible says that I know that was dumb, OK? All right. But the Bible says that you and I, we're all part of a body, OK? And we're all going to have different gifts. But it's so exciting to think, man, that I somehow was in the thought of God before I was even made. And on this earth that I'm a part of his plan. Like Jeremiah before I was even born, he knew me.

He knew what he was going to make in me. And before I was even born, he set me apart and there's a work that needs to be done that only I can do that is called me to do and I'm uniquely gifted to do. Do you do you sometimes, you know, to be totally honest right here, do you sometimes think about yourself, you know, look in the mirror or whatever, just think about your life and you ever just think I am so weird.

No, honestly, were you just think no one thinks like me, you know, I do this, I sit and I go, I'll just think about my life and everything I've experienced and just everything I do in life right now. And I think I am so unusual. Just, you know, you just go in.

I'm a freak. No one thinks like I do. No one acts like I do. No one speaks like I know it. Why do I think this way? Why do I act this way? And yet the truth is, is it's your very uniqueness that's that God's going to use for that reason. You know what's weird? I'll show you what's weird. This is weird. You guys know what this is?

How many of you know what this is? Oh, really? How many? OK, about a fourth of you. This is the coolest thing. I just found this this summer. This I show you what you do with this. It's actually also belongs in the kitchen. You stick an apple on it. OK, watch this. Stick an apple on it, and I hope this works. And watch, you're going to be amazed. I hope this works. All right, not working. Oh, I'm going the wrong way. There you go. All right, OK, here we go. Watch this.

Thank you. What it does, it's an Apple Corps peeler slicer that makes rings. Isn't that cool? Now, you look at this thing, young man, that is the weirdest thing I've ever seen. But someone thought to themselves, you know, what the world needs is apple rings, you know? And so we make this invention that is like nothing else in the world, but nothing else on the earth can do that. Nothing else on the earth can do that. But it was it was made with that thought in mind, you know, we could appeal it in court and make it and live all at once. So let's just make this tool.

Let's design this. See, life gets exciting when you think, God, that's what I am. I don't know what on earth I'm here to do, I don't understand it, I know I'm different. I know I've experienced different things and I've gone through different things in my life and the way I look with my imperfections and all these different areas and all my quirks and peculiarities. You design me specifically like this. Do you believe that in your heart? Do you believe that all the all of the flaws in you even have a have a reason?

It's incredible thought to think, God, you put me on this earth like Jeremiah and I've got plans. God has plans for your life. I mean, do you honestly believe that God has huge plans for your life? Do you really believe that there's a purpose for you here? And you were designed with that purpose in mind. I tell you, life is so different when you start thinking that way and believing that way and trusting what Scripture says about you as an individual, that God had good works prepared beforehand, that you should walk in them.

That's huge. Now, now, sometimes maybe maybe some of you in this room, you start believing that, you start thinking, well, yeah, maybe he does, maybe I am unique, maybe he did create me for me. Mean, that is what the word of God says. But do you ever start believing that? And then after a while you just think, no, not me.

And you start doubting your ability. But what can I do, says the same thing Jeremiah does. Look at the next verse in Jeremiah one four six. Jeremiah responds, Now, how would you respond? I mean, think about this.

How would you respond if Almighty God spoke to you and said, listen, I set you apart, I have plans for you, I'm going to use you for this purpose.

I made you for it before you were born. I created you this way before you even came out of your mother's womb. I already set you apart for this work. And I am going to use you for this.

Let's look at how Jeremiah responds to that, we're six sovereign lord, I said, I do not know how to speak. I'm only a child. But the Lord said to me, do not say I am only a child, you must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command. You do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you, declares the Lord. Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, Now I have put my words in your mouth.

See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down. To destroy and overthrow. To build and to plant. See, Jeremiahs response to God may be similar to some of your responses, where you go, God, who am I? Even though God tells you this is who you are, I made you for this Jeremiahs response is I don't know how to speak. I'm just a child in God's comfort to him first. He says, don't say I'm just a child. You go do what I called you to do.

And he says it's comfort to him in verse eight is do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you. See, what is what is God's comfort to Jeremiah when he was doubting his human ability? He says, I am with you. See, it's so easy to doubt ourselves, even when I was sitting in that chair beforehand, coming up here to speak, I'm thinking, you know, Torrey conference is winding down.

Everyone's heard like 15, 20 messages. They're not even, you know, you know, getting those through their head right now. They're worn out. And I'm trying to get up there. I'm going to get up there and try to convince them that gods give them this huge purpose in their life and this plan and to get them out there believing it. And I can tell my own words to say that is absolutely impossible. You know, I you know, it's impossible to get you to to love God, love people and now believe that you got this whole huge plan for your life.

And it is is absolutely impossible but to believe that. No, as I am speaking right now, God in heaven right now is speaking through me. He's standing on the stage with me. And he's the one that's going to keep this going on in your heart, just like last night with Harvey. As I pray for

him, God's the one that's going to get him to think is how do you change an old man 72 years thinking the same thing. You don't. But you just go and you say what God called you to say, and then he's going to perform the results.

He is standing here with me. He is in me. He is speaking to you. Explain to you that there's a reason you're on this earth. That he is telling you this morning you are not some random accident, you are not some failure that has no purpose on this Earth. But that he and heaven designed you for specific purpose and has huge plans for your life and you're to believe it and believe that you can accomplish it, not because you're so great, but because God says he'll be with you to accomplish that.

Do you believe that about yourself? God has huge plans for your life, and he's with you to help you accomplish those things. Now, you may get to that point where you go, OK, I believe that, I believe God is with me, I believe that I have plans for my life. And yet what Satan will do is then he'll start using people and people will try and discourage you.

You know, you may you may run after these dreams, these visions of what you believe, God's call you do on this earth. And then people try to convince you they trying to discourage you. I mean, it happens to me all the time or people. Come on, you're just one person. No, not. I've got God with me. You know, and it's like people just want to say, no, you could never do that, you could never amount to that, you can't accomplish that.

You think about Jeremiah's situation, OK? Jeremiah is about to speak to all these people and God tells them ahead of time, look, everyone's going to be against you. In fact, if you go down to like. I don't know. Verse 17, we'll go there, verse 17, 16. No. 17, OK. OK, here's what here's what God says to Jeremiah. He says this. Get yourself ready. Stand up and say to them, whatever I command, you do not be terrified by them or I will terrify you before them.

Today, I have made you a fortified city, an iron pillar and a bronze wall to stand against the homeland, against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests and the people of the land. They will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you and will rescue you, declares the Lord.

Think of our God saying there, listen. Listen to what he says. He says, look, I'm sending you out to these people, but look at the list. He goes, you're going to stand against the king's. The

officials, the priests and the people. Pretty much everyone, especially when he says and the people, OK, so he says you're going to go you're going to go speak and here's who's going to be against you. All of the kings are going to hate you and speak against you.

All of the officials are going to speak against you. All of the priests, even the other supposed religious leaders are going to give the opposite message and then all the people are going to be against you. But don't be afraid. He says you don't be terrified by them or I will terrify you before them. He goes, I'll give you something to be scared of. That's huge. God says to Jeremiah, you're alone on this one. It's you and me. Are you willing to stand with me alone?

Are you willing to stand with me against everybody? And as I read that, I thought to myself, could I have been Jeremiah, could I have done it? Am I strong enough? Do I have that mentality where, God, I will go anywhere with you, my whole faith is in you, even if every single person is against me, I will stand with you. That's enough, man. I kept thinking of myself during this time. Could I have been like Jeremiah?

Is my faith really that strong that I could say, God, even if everyone hates me and everyone's against me, it doesn't matter. I will stand alone with you. Because I know what you've created me for. I know you are with me and I can stand alone with you. What an incredible task Jeremiah was given. Could you have been could you have taken his shoes? Could you have been and the thing is, is when you read scripture, you realize he's not the only one like that. I mean, think about all the prophets, the about Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abendigo. Ezekiel, he says, you know, you just do it doesn't matter if they listen to you or not. Isaiah. Think about Noah, you think about this, could you have been Noah? Were everyone else on the earth was doing? Everyone everyone else on the Earth was doing one thing, but you stood alone with God. And you were the one righteous person on the earth, is your faith that strong? That's what God has called us to be, to say I don't care if everyone hates my message. I know this is your word. And so I'm going to preach and I'm going to say it and I will stand alone with you if I have to. That was Jeremiah's calling, that is our calling, that is everyone's calling in this room who believes in Jesus Christ that you would be a man or woman that is strong enough that says I will do whatever God's called me to and I will stand alone with him. You know, clothes, I want to. Tell you about, OK, I'm not a I'm not like a dream guy, and I had this dream or this vision, but, um. Several months ago, I had it, you know, one of those dreams where it is so freaky and so real that you wake up and you're just not sure if it happened or not. OK, here's what happened to me. And this never happens, and that's why when the office that day I'm sharing with all my staff, I go,

man, I want in the world this was all about. But I had a dream where I, I died, OK, where I died. And I was actually being taken into the presence of God for judgment. And it was so real, I never dreamt about that before, but I'm seeing lights and I don't even know what I'm supposed to feel, but I'm shaking and moving and I just remove my eyes being closed and just shaking, just shaking, just thinking, wow, I'm about to open my eyes.

And it was one of those in-between states where you're thinking, am I dreaming this or is this real? And I'm on my bed and I'm just shaking, thinking, no way. This is the moment I'm about to open my eyes and either I'm going to stand before God or I'm going see the headboard, OK?

And it was just one of those feelings where I'm just going, you know, my heart is pounding, my body is just shaking because the thought of coming and appearing before God Almighty with everything we know of him in scripture, with the angels, the lightning, the thunder, this almighty being that we're not even allowed to look upon right now. I'm sitting there in my bed and I'm thinking I'm going to see if I'm going to see him. What is this going to be like when I open my eyes?

I see the headboard and I go, Oh, thank you. I mean, it was it just freaked me out. And at that moment it was honestly, I'm just telling you, it was exciting to see the headboard because that is it's you know, and I know it's going to be an incredible day, but it's also a terrifying time.

I mean, what's it going to be like to see God? And it made me think, imagine, imagine at that moment I was thinking, gosh, what if that wasn't me? That was really me coming in the presence of God. And imagine everything you would feel at that moment, you know, on your hands and knees or whatever it'll be like. And you're about to see God. And imagine if you're duckdown, you have your eyes closed.

And what if what if at that moment you hear a voice go. Well done. And what would that feel like right then? You imagine just going to. Yes, I mean, imagine hearing those words now, is there anything on earth you would rather have than that? Is there anything you're pursuing with your life that you would rather have than to hear the words from God's mouth? Well done. I don't know about you, but there's nothing I'd rather have than that.

And I honestly would give away everything to hear those words from God. Well done. I made you for this purpose. You lived on this earth with a purpose. You stood alone with me and

accomplished that purpose. Regardless of what everyone else called you to do. You stood firm with me.

Well done. And I just pray for that moment. I can only imagine what that would be like. The greatest moment of our existence to hear those words from our creator. Listen, don't let Satan get you doubting what you're here on this earth for. Don't let things distract you from your calling on this earth, don't let people discourage you from what God has called you, too, but you stand alone with God. So one day you hear those words, well done, my good and faithful servant, when you pray with me.

Father, I, I just love being your child, I love the thought that I was created for this hour. God, I pray that as we leave this room that we would all be convinced, God, that we're here for a reason and you have huge plans for our lives and we can accomplish them with you. Will we be bold like Jeremiah, where we will stand alone with you against the whole world? Because, God, we want more than anything. To hear those words well done, we want to use every talent you've given us for your glory here on this Earth, and so God help us to leave here believing your word. That you made us all for a reason and you made me perfectly. Exactly the way you wanted me. Because you've got a job for me, help us to go out and not be lazy and comfortable and live for ourselves, but to live for you. Because that's where life is. You're an awesome God, you're amazing, you're perfect. We love you in Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

You're dismissed.