GROUP GUIDE

Find Your Purpose

From the message on Isaiah 2:4 · Psalm 139:13

THE MESSAGE IN BRIEF

Many of us carry a quiet worry right now: in an age of machines, what's the point of being human? This message answers it two ways. Isaiah 2:4 calls us to lay down the sword (criticism, outrage, tearing down) and pick up the shovel (building something better). Psalm 139:13 answers the fear of being replaceable: you were knit together, by name, on purpose, the opposite of mass-produced. Nicholas Winton lived this out. In 1939 he quietly arranged trains to carry 669 children to safety, and told no one for fifty years.

READ

> **ISAIAH 2:4** *"They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks."*
>
> **PSALM 139:13** *"You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb."*

Also read: Genesis 2:15 · 1 Peter 4:10. **From the book:** *Your Life Signature*, chapter 1.

OPEN UP

Tell us about something you built with your own hands, big or small, that almost nobody else ever noticed.

THINK IT THROUGH

1. Nicholas Winton did quiet, unglamorous work and never told a soul for fifty years. What does that challenge in the way you measure your own impact?
2. This series talks about three things God places in us: Passion (the fire in your bones), Gift (the strength in your hands) and Burden (the ache in your heart). Which of those words jumps out at you first, and why?

GET HONEST

3. Where in your life right now are you holding a sword (criticizing, venting, tearing down) more than you're holding a shovel and actually building something?
4. "What will you replace the problem with?" Think of something you tend to criticize or complain about. What would it look like to build something instead?

PRAY TOGETHER

God, thank you that you knit each of us together by name, on purpose. Forgive us for the times we reach for the sword when you've put a shovel in our hands. Help every person here uncover, not invent, what you made them to build. Give us one small thing to build this week, and the courage to do it. Amen.

THIS WEEK

- **Write it down.** "This week, instead of just noticing _____, I'm going to build _____."
- **Read the Bible together.** Start the 5-day Bible plan *Your Life Signature: Find Your God-Given Purpose* in the Bible App and invite your group as friends, so you read the same day and can see each other's reflections. bible.com/reading-plans/79882
- **Swap one sword for a shovel.** Each time you catch yourself criticizing this week, build one small thing instead of critiquing one more.

This guide stands on its own, so anyone who missed Sunday can join in. Use the questions that fit your group and skip the rest. Never make anyone share their written answers out loud.

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