

SCC Small Group Discussion
Catechism – Becoming More Like Jesus
Q1: Why am I here?

Derived from a sermon on January 4, 2026 by Dr. Jeff Chandler

Getting Started:

When you hear the word “Catechism”, what is your first impression?

In a sentence or two tell the group how you would answer the question “Why am I here?” as it pertains to something personal, and how it might relate to a cause bigger than yourself.

Exploring the Answer in God’s Word:

A: God made me on purpose for a purpose.

Flowing from the Lord’s character, God created me to be a recipient of his goodness and mercy. In response, I live my life loving God, bringing him glory, and loving others.

The five devotions this week in our free booklet focus on the following Scriptures that relate to this topic. As a group discuss how to apply them to your life.

- I. *“So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”* Genesis 1:27

What does it mean for you personally to be created in the image of God? How does it shape the answer you give to “Why am I here”?

2 Corinthians 5:17 speaks of becoming a “New Creation” in Christ. Considering how sin entered the world and marred God’s image in us, what does this promise mean for us today?

- II. *“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”*
1 Corinthians 10:31

What does it mean for ordinary actions, like eating, drinking, or working, to glorify God? How does this verse expand your understanding of worship beyond church services or “spiritual” activities?

How is God taking the things you are passionate about and using them for his glory? Can you describe these passions or interests as gifts of God’s goodness and mercy?

- III. *“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”* Ephesians 2:10

How does identifying as God’s “handiwork” or “workmanship” (*poiēma*) - his masterpiece, affect the way you view your purpose and daily life?

Do you have an activity you currently do where you have the sense “I was made for this”? If so, how does it relate to loving God, bringing him glory, and loving others?

- IV. Jesus said: *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”* Matthew 22:37-40

What does it mean to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind?

Drawing from the idea that we are God's masterpiece, and our lives are a gift from him, how might you take the love and mercy you have received yourself, and give it to another (e.g., listening well, forgiving, serving, or encouraging). Can you identify someone who specifically comes to mind?

- V. *"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."* Colossians 3:12-14

Which of the virtues Paul lists: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, love, do you find most natural to live out, and which do you struggle with the most? How have you seen God help you grow in some of them?

This last verse begins with a "Therefore," meaning "in light of all we've discussed," we can confidently know who we are: God's chosen people who are set apart (holy) and dearly loved. As a final thought, articulate what it means to you to be chosen by God for his great purpose of loving people and drawing them to himself (see John 6:44, 12:32, and 13:35)."

To help you integrate these truths be sure to do this week's daily devotions and reflections. Pray for one another as you seek to apply what God is showing you.

Next Week's Topic - January 11-17, 2026

How can I know God?

A: God is revealed in creation; I learn to know him personally through the Bible and through Jesus.

Believing God reveals himself through Scripture, I spend time reading it, praying it, and obeying it. Jesus makes me a new creation.

Get discussion questions at www.sequimcommunitychurch.org/downloads