**Hillside UMC Sermon Prep Sheet**

***Pastor Chris Neikirk***

**Date: Sunday, September 10, 2017**

**Sermon Title: On Purpose: Living With Purpose**

**Scripture: Luke 5:27-31 (*NIV*)** 27After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. “Follow me,” Jesus said to him, 28and Levi got up, left everything and followed him. 29Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. 30But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” 31Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 32I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

**1 Corinthians 10:31-33 (*NLT*)** 31So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. 32Don’t give offense to Jews or Gentiles or the church of God. 33I, too, try to please everyone in everything I do. I don’t just do what is best for me; I do what is best for others so that many may be saved.

**Call to Worship: (8:30 only)**

Leader: Scripture calls us to intentionally bless the Lord at all times. As his church we have the unique opportunity to praise his name together. Let’s read [Psalm 34:1-3](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Ps%2034.1-3), as we are reminded and encouraged to magnify the Lord together on this day and every day.

**People: I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.
Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!**

**Basic Theme: *A Christian life is a life lived on purpose that begins and ends with God. To discover our purpose, we must first realize that our identity is grounded in a relationship with Jesus Christ. In his book The Purpose Driven Life, Rick Warren writes, “Without God life makes no sense.” If you want to discover your purpose and bring greater meaning to your life, you must begin with God–“Everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him.” (Colossians 1:16b, Msg) Our ultimate purpose is to glorify God in all we do… on purpose!***

**Sermon Snapshot (Key Points): Jesus extends the same invitation to us that he gave to Levi, “Follow me.” In order to discover our purpose, we must first respond affirmatively to that invitation. Jesus found Levi at his tax-collecting booth… where did he find you? Living a life with purpose means intentionally reaching out to the lost and the broken, and inviting them to meet the one whom you are following… remember, we were all once lost and broken.**

**So What? Are you just going through the motions of everyday living or are your living a life with purpose? Do you notice the people around you who are hurting, or are you so consumed with “your life” that you fail to see others? Have you ever thrown a “Matthew Party?” Would you be so bold as live with purpose and engage those outside of your tight-knit group of family and friends? Will you take the risk and begin living with purpose?**