

# All In

When Jesus is your Plan "A"  
you don't need Plan "B".



## Magnolia Bible Church Men's Group

Thursday Nights at 6:30 PM | October 11 – November 15, 2018 (Lesson #1)

In this series we're going to be talking about the "All In" concept. *All in* means totally committed, no turning back, reaching the point of no return, burning the boats, and leaving it all on the field (these are just a few of the phrases we use in today's world). To be brutally honest, as men very few of us are *All In* when it comes to our commitment to Jesus. Vying against our commitment to Jesus are a tremendous number of distractions and pressures that seem to pull us in every direction except the one that counts.

In this 6-week series we're going to take a real, hard look at what we need to do to **make Jesus Plan A**. Provided below are topics we'll be covering in this series. Each topic has been specifically selected to drive us towards building a life where we don't have to make any excuses.

1. [October 11](#) Finding the "Why?" in your life.
2. [October 18](#) What's Your "game"? Discovering God's specific plan for your life.
3. [October 25](#) Roadblocks: areas of sin and weakness that prevent success.
4. [November 1](#) It's all about TRUST: Making the leap of faith.
5. [November 8](#) Developing God's *Game Plan* for your life.
6. [November 15](#) Putting it all together and living with purpose for Jesus.

In tonight's lesson we're going to explore the "Why?" in our lives. Here's the fundamental question that each of us have to ask about ourselves – **Why do we do what we do?** Once we figure out the "Why", the "How" and the "What" will take care of themselves. For those of us who are followers of Jesus, His message in Matthew 6:33 to "seek first the Kingdom of Heaven" should be to us a rallying cry.

In addition to a few stories I'll tell about being *All In*, we'll use the following "Stacked Venn Diagram" to help us peel back the layers of the onion to identify our Why?



Let's be honest, being *All In* takes more than just deciding you're going to be *All In*. The preceding diagram identifies the key elements that need to be in place for our personal *All In* condition:

## God's CALLING

- Romans 11:29: *for the gifts and the **calling** of God are irrevocable.*
- 1 Peter 5:10: *After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who **called** you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.*

## God's PURPOSE

- Proverbs 19:21 *Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the LORD's **purpose** that prevails*
- Romans 8:28 (NIV): *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been **called** according to His **purpose**.*

## God's TIMING

- Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV): *But those who **wait on the Lord** shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.*
- 1 Peter 5:6 (NIV): *Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.*

## Your GIFTEDNESS

- 1 Corinthians 12:7, 11: *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and He gives them to each one, just as He determines.*
- In the context of this discussion, let's include talents and abilities in the context of giftedness.

## Your PASSION

- Psalm 37:4 (NIV): *Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.*

This week, your mission (should you choose to accept it!) is to develop a personalized "Why?" statement. This statement should integrate all five elements of the **All In Venn Diagram**. Provided below is one I put together as an example (note the color-coding that aligns with the five elements).

**Example "Why?" Statement:** Using my **newly-formed** businesses, along with the **communication and strategic thinking abilities the Lord has given me**, I'm **driven to bring together** Christians and non-Christians in the oil and gas industry **to show the world the transforming power of Jesus Christ**.

### Small Group "Tabletop" Discussion Questions

1. As you look at the five elements in the "All In Venn Diagram", which one means the most to you?
2. Throughout your life, do you feel like you have had a sense of purpose or have you struggled finding meaning and direction in life?
3. What excites you most about being "All In"? What scares you?
4. Although it's quite likely this is the first time you've explored "Why?", if you had to provide a short answer for the "Why" in your life, what would it be?