

What's our main purpose?

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Psalm 19:1

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

³¹ So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

Revelation 21:23

²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

What's our main purpose?

2 Corinthians 4:4

⁴ The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

(Expressive Individualism) suggests not only a desire to pursue one's own path but also a yearning for fulfillment through the definition and articulation of one's own identity. It is a drive both to be more like whatever you already are and also to live in society by fully asserting who you are. The capacity of individuals to define the terms of their own existence by defining their personal identities is increasingly equated with liberty and with the meaning of some of our basic rights, and it is given pride of place in our self-understanding.

Yuval Levin, American political analyst, public intellectual, academic, and journalist. *The Fractured Republic: Renewing America's Social Contract in the Age of Individualism*



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The Gospel Changes Everything



**The Cross meets
Expressive Individualism**

Fall
2020
Series

1. Where do we see this to be true?
2. Why does this matter?
3. How does the gospel speak a better word?

#1 - Where do we see this to be true?

Cultural Mottos

Literature

Hashtags

Education/Coaching

#1 - Where do we see this to be true?

2 Timothy 3:1-3

¹ But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ² People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ without love, unforgiving, slanderous...

#2 - Why does this matter?

For the Expressive Individualist, the greatest problem is not that God's glory goes unseen but *their own* glory goes unseen.

#2 - Why does this matter?

Romans 3:19-20

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

#2 – Why does this matter?

Historical/Global

Relational

#3 – How is it that the gospel speaks a better word?

FAIL: An IDENTITY formed around personal
EXPRESSION.

GOSPEL: An IDENTITY based on what GOD has
EXPRESSED.

#3 – How is it that the gospel speaks a better word?

2 Corinthians 4:4-6

⁴ The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

#3 – How is it that the gospel speaks a better word?

FAIL: An IDENTITY formed around expressing MYSELF.

GOSPEL: An IDENTITY based on what God expressing HIMSELF.

#3 – How is it that the gospel speaks a better word?

1 Corinthians 1:18

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

In what areas of your life are you seeing this
“expressive individualism”?

Are you committed to preaching the gospel
to yourself in those areas--that it is *not* about
you or what you express, but what Christ
has expressed through the cross?



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