In this part of the world it’s been hot, very hot! The air has been hot, the ground hot, the sea hot. And heat drains us. Many of us have not travelled to cooler climes due to Covid. Also, the continual sense of living in the unknown is tiring as we work out different possibilities in our heads based on restrictions that may or may not be put in place. Holding on to our purpose in all this can be hard.

Twice in 1 Kings 19 God asks Elijah “what are you doing here?” What a great question! Elijah is worn out, fed up, sick of the actions of others, and scared. Everything has just got too much and he wants to give up. His sense of purpose seems to have vanished with all the bad news and uncertainty he is witnessing.

It’s possible some of you may have similar feelings. May be you have lost your job or health. May be you are missing being a parent or grandparent. May be you are tied to home more than you would like to be. May be you feel distanced from church and the contribution you once made there.

May be you are asking: “what am I doing, what’s my purpose?”

May be your purpose needs to be redefined? Could it be that it’s not what you usually do that’s most important but the unique thing God is bringing to your attention during this unusual time?

Taking time out to consider your purpose could be helpful. May be you can’t go back to the old norm yet, but what new purpose is God opening up for you right now? What new opportunities are presenting themselves? What can you learn to love right now that you haven’t had time to enjoy before? What is there right under your nose, or in the sky overhead, or down the street, that can give you a sense of purpose and excite you once more?

Two thousand years ago Irenaeus of Lyons said: “The glory of God is a human being fully alive.”

Understanding and then living according to our purpose is what contributes to making us fully alive people. So let’s go live purposefully, for God’s glory!