

God's Answers to Life's Questions

2 Corinthians 5:15

June 30, 2024

And He [Christ] died for all, that those who live

1. What does my life matter? What am I worth? **meaning**

Someone's value may be either ascribed or achieved

illus. a baby's value is ascribed, a ball player's achieved

Something is only worth what people are willing to **pay**

My life has meaning because . . .

- God set a price on my life only He could pay (Mark 10:45)
- The sinless Son of God died "for all" = on my **behalf**
- God's **love** gives my life significance and meaning

should no longer live for themselves, but for Him

2. Why am I here? What am I supposed to do? **purpose**

Proponents of "expressive individualism" encourage people to look inside themselves to find meaning, define truth and discover purpose. This leads to viewing all external authority as an obstacle to healthy self-integration. You're on your own!

"Is what you are living for, worth Christ dying for?" Oscar Murio

Step #1 stop living for yourself, your desires, preferences etc.

Step #2 start living "on behalf of" Jesus Christ (Mat. 28:18-20)

who died for them and was raised again.

3. Where am I going? What's ahead? **destiny**

Jesus' resurrection **victory** guarantees my destiny.

Faith is not belief without doubt, but trust without reservation.

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Today I am stepping across the line. I'm tired of waffling, and I'm finished with wavering. I've made my choice; the verdict is in; and my decision is irrevocable. I'm going God's way. There's no turning back now!

I will live the rest of my life serving God's purposes with God's people on God's planet for God's glory. I will use my life to celebrate his presence, cultivate his character, participate in his family, demonstrate his love, and communicate his Word.

Since my past has been forgiven, and I have a purpose for living and a home awaiting in heaven [destiny], I refuse to waste any more time or energy on shallow living, petty thinking, trivial talking, thoughtless doing, useless regretting, hurtful resenting, or faithless worrying.

Instead, I will magnify God, grow to maturity, serve in ministry, and fulfill my mission in the membership of his family.

Because this life is preparation for the next, I will value worship over wealth, "we" over "me," character over comfort, service over status, and people over possessions, position, and pleasures. I know what matters most, and I'll give it all I've got. I'll do the best I can with what I have for Jesus Christ today.

I won't be captivated by culture, manipulated by critics, motivated by praise, frustrated by problems, debilitated by temptation, or intimidated by the devil. I'll keep running my race with my eyes on the goal, not the sidelines or those running by me.

When times get tough, and I get tired, I won't back up, back off, back down, back out, or backslide. I'll just keep moving forward by God's grace. I'm Spirit-led, purpose-driven and mission-focused, so I cannot be bought, I will not be compromised, and I shall not quit until I finish the race.

I'm a trophy of God's amazing grace, so I will be gracious to everyone, grateful for every day, and generous with everything that God entrusts to me.

To my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I say: However, whenever, wherever, and whatever you ask me to do, my answer in advance is yes! Wherever you lead and whatever the cost, I'm ready. Anytime. Anywhere. Anyway.

Whatever it takes Lord; whatever it takes!

I want to be used by you in such a way, that on that final day I'll hear you say, "Well done, thou good and faithful one. Come on in, and let the eternal party begin!" (by Pastor Rick Warren)