

Living A God-Glorifying Life

Selected Scripture

All of us have a driving force, a consuming passion that is at the very core of our being. What is at the very center of your life? Understand that life does not consist in the abundance of one's possession (Luke 12:15). There is more to life than things (Matthew 6:25). Life that is simply lived for things and pleasures is a wasted life.

The Apostle Paul lived a purposeful, meaningful, productive and God-pleasing, God-glorifying life. The summary of his life purpose is in Philippians 1:21; "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain." Paul, in this life verse is teaching us that the ultimate aim and design of our life as children of God is to live to glorify God. And from the life example of Paul, we can learn three ways of living for God's glory and therefore not wasting your life.

1. _____ *the supreme value of Christ*

God gave you your life for this one basic reason: that you would glorify God means. To glorify God means to magnify His glory before the world (Isa. 43:7; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 10:31). Since God's glory is now residing in you, you are to give pure testimony to the pure glory of God that men might see His glory (Matthew 5:14-16; Psalm 29:1-2). Paul's eager expectation and hope is that now as always Christ will be honored in his body, whether by life or by death (Phil. 1:20). And he glorified God by demonstrating that Christ is supremely valuable in his life. He is willing to give up everything for the value of knowing Christ (Phil. 3:7-8).

2. _____ *to give up your life to Christ*

For Paul, to live is Christ and to die is gain (Philippians 1:21). He is more concerned and firmly focused on Christ rather than himself. He understood that if he were to glorify God, that he would have to die to himself (Gal. 2:20), like Jesus said (Matthew 16:25,26; John 12:24). Paul knew that Christ must be pre-eminent in his life because Christ owns him (1 Cor. 6:19). He was determined to live for Christ (1 Cor. 9:23; Phil. 3:7,13, 14).

3. _____ *your life to gospel service*

Paul found himself in a dilemma (Phil. 1:22-26). He was being torn between two good choices of whether to die and enjoy the presence of the Lord or to remain alive and be used for His service. But whatever God wants, that's what he wants. To glorify Christ, and to live unwasted life means to die to selfish desires in order to live to serve others for Jesus' sake. Paul was willing to be spent for the welfare of the church and the glory of Christ (Phil. 2:17; 2 Tim. 4:6).

Don't waste your life. Your life is God's precious gift to you. But what you do with your life is your precious gift to Him. Aim and focus your life towards glorifying and pleasing God in everything you do so that God will write upon your life: "*THIS WAS NOT A WASTED LIFE.*" Make this your life's goal: *For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.*