

The Purpose of Life...

by Chad Ramsey Minister, Gloster Street Church of Christ in Tupelo, MS

Author of Reasons to Believe and In God's Image

Life is a precious gift from God. It is God who "forms the spirit of man within him" (Zechariah 12:1), and it is to God that our spirits return after death (Ecclesiastes 12:7). Consequently, it would seem that men ought to use their lives to please God. But rather than striving to "seek the Lord" (Acts 17:27), men often expend their energies in other ventures.

Some, for example, act as if their purpose in life is to gain physical wealth. And to that end they focus all of their efforts. Those who struggle in this area should be reminded of several basic Biblical truths:

- 1) "One's life does not consist in the abundance of things he possesses" (Luke 12:15);
- 2) Christians ought to "lay up for [themselves] treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal" (Matthew 6:20); and
- 3) "The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil" (1 Timothy 6:10). Life's purpose is not to amass earthly wealth.

Others act as if their purpose in life is to maintain their physical health. While it should be granted that our bodies are important to God (1 Corinthians 6:19), and that "bodily exercise profits a little" (1 Timothy 4:8), it must be remembered that at the longest, our lives are but brief (James 4:14). For this reason, we must make sure that we do not become so consumed with caring for our bodies that we lose focus upon God.

Still others act as if the purpose of life is to experience pleasure. This, too, misses the point of our existence. Our purpose is to "Fear God and keep His commandments. For this is man's all" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

NEWSLETTER

May 20, 2018

Mark Dailey, evangelist
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Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Study	9:45 AM
Sunday AM Worship	11:00 AM
No Sunday PM Service	
Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study	10:00 AM
Wednesday PM Bible Study	7:00 PM

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We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a *Visitor Card* (on the back of the pew in front of you) so we may have a record of your visit. Later in the service we will pass around a collection plate. As a visitor you are obviously not expected to give but we would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in the collection plate. Thanks.

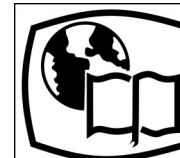
There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs for infant care.

Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent during worship.



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Prayer List *In our prayers let's praise God, recognize His greatness, and thank Him for His blessings.*

Those that attend: Mildred Lynum, Bill Flanagan, Anna Brink, Frank Marsden, Bill Kinney, Pat Hazlett, David Alcorn, Darlene Reed, Butts & Edie Sumner, Chris Highway, Candi Butcher, Cheryl Mellott, Joyce Cameron, Willow McFarland, Tahlia Willis, Logan Bennett, Kyra Kyle, Bev McArthur, Maria Swindlehurst, Jean Cameron, Sonny Stine, Brenda Nelson, Diane Mellott, Dennis Reed, Marge Reed, and Cheryl Mellott.

People in other places: Renee Kinney, Tim Mellott and family, T.J., Wednesday Rahelich, Jack Openshaw, Betty & Dennis Leistner, Denise Garlitz' grandchildren and her son Jeff, Mary Lou, Frank's niece, Tony & Eglar Grana, Susan Barrett & family, Karen Anstee, George Beckwith, Cindy, Doris & Mary Jane Mess, Andrea, Red & Goldie Crow, Samantha Allee, Cheryl Wheeler, Levi, Jeanne Johns, Loretta Gorito, Kay Ables, Mary Lou, Gloria, Linda Mudd, Dorothea Johnson, Tammy, Rita D, Jenna, Irene Jurek, Billie Jo Potter, Debbie Curry, Jaye Boyle, Barry Mitchell, Martha, Andrew, Vanessa Lewis, Williams family, Mary, Jean Fitzgerald, Mary Lou & Louise (Anna Brink's sisters), Malissa Layton, Th'alise Robinson, Ashley, Noreen Andrews, John - Maria Swindlehurst's brother in law, Emily Sestack, and Levi Baptiste.

Let's pray as we continue our preacher search process.

Updates:

Marge Reed had carpal tunnel surgery recently on her right hand. Her stitches were removed on Friday.

Cheryl Mellott. Let's keep her in our prayers.

Keith Marten. Let's keep him in our prayers.

Ray McArthur's **mom** recently had a nerve procedure in her back.

Debbie, in Nashville, a friend of Susan Barret, underwent back surgery.

Mary Lou, Anna Brink's sister, is seeing doctors.

Becky, manager at Longhorn on Military Rd, and a friend of Wilma Patterson...
Becky's **father** had open heart surgery recently.

John - Maria Swindlehurst's brother in law, is dealing with Huntington's Disease.

Renee Kinney. They found two tumors on her liver recently. Let's keep her in our prayers.

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

May 20 Today. Men's Business Meeting
Last day to return forms to Carol Jones concerning *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*

May 20-23 Marriage Seminar Amherst church of Christ Please see posting.

May 25 Ladies Devotional 6:30 PM at the building Shery Carter facilitating.

Ongoing Events

Personal care items for the vets at the V.A. Hospital in Buffalo and also non-perishable food items for Casey House on Cedar Ave. in N.F. are being collected. If you can help in this matter it is greatly appreciated.

Zambia Baby Fund - Several members are contributing financially to this.

Sun. AM Adult Bible Study 2nd Corinthians

Sermon Topic Today: *Stuff God Teaches We Don't Like*

Scripture Reading: *Romans 12:17-21*

No Sun. PM Bible Study

Wed. PM Bible Study 2nd Samuel

Ladies Bible Class

We only have 2 more Ladies Bible Classes before we break for the summer (May 22 & 29). Diane Mellott will finish up our lesson series on May 22nd, "*Father, Into Thy Hands I Commend My Spirit*" and then on May 29th we will spend our time together in prayer, song and writing out some cards of encouragement for Becky Rose to take to the Brothers and Sisters in Malawi, Africa.

Forms must be turned in TODAY



Guess Who's Coming To Dinner
(or Guess Where You're Going To Dinner)

Saturday June 2nd 5PM

Details & Sign-up forms are in the back of the auditorium.

Your form must be turned in to Carol Jones TODAY.

We hope you will enjoy this great way to get to know one another better.

Necessities for Happiness

by George Pledger Weber Rd. church of Christ Corpus Christi, TX

It has been said there are four things necessary for man's happiness. They are WORK, PLAY, LOVE and WORSHIP. These four things should be qualified.

The WORK that brings happiness is meaningful work that not only helps oneself but also contributes to the good of others.

The PLAY should be wholesome and should help restore the body and mind to do a better job.

One's LOVE should be that described in the Bible when we are told to love our neighbors as ourselves. That love is a deep and genuine concern for the welfare of others and is not the selfish desire of one who is set on pleasing himself.

Finally, there is WORSHIP which should be true worship. True worship is that which is directed to God through Jesus Christ and is according to their Word. All else is false worship and cannot lead to happiness.

Build your life on Christ and His teachings and you will find happiness both here and in the hereafter.

Trays Today

Cora Parson