

IV. YOU NEED A **PURPOSE** TO LIVE **FOR** (1:20-26)

A. There are four major things that people live for today:

1. **Possessions**
2. **Pleasure**
3. **Prestige**
4. **Popularity**

B. Paul shared his purpose for living in v 21 when he wrote “For me to live is **Christ**.”

Fill in the blank: For me to live is _____.

C. Life Lesson: Live for **Christ** every day by serving **others**.

“36 *Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?*”

37 *Jesus said to him, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.”*

38 *This is the first and great commandment.*

39 *And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’*

40 *On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”* Matthew 22:36-40

Want more joy in your life?

Jesus (vs 20-21)

Others (vs 23-26)

You

WHEN YOU DIE WHICH DOOR WILL YOU ENTER?

“9 *I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.*

10 *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”* John 10:9-10

AFTERLIFE ~ WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DIE?

Live Now For Eternity

Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. The afterlife is a reality. People are designed by God to live somewhere forever. Put another way, death is not the end. Death is the entrance into a brand new realm of existence.

This of course raises a lot of questions. Questions like:

What is it like?

Will I see my family and friends?

How do I get there?

What must I do now to prepare?

We will answer these questions and many more!!

B. The Bible describes death and the afterlife as an appointment. Hebrews 9:27 says, “*And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,*”. Each person will die by appointment. People may be late for a lot of things, but this is one appointment that everyone will be on time for.

C. There is a lot of confusion about the afterlife. It’s ok to be wrong about a lot of things, but don’t be wrong about the afterlife. Come and get clarity on the truth about the afterlife as you learn about:

Oct 9 Is There Life After Life?

Oct 16 What Is Heaven?

Oct 23 What Is Heaven Like?

Oct 30 What Is Hell?

Nov 6 What Is Hell Like?

Nov 13 Finding Hope And Healing From Grief

Nov 20 Receiving Rewards

TODAY Live Now For Eternity

D. **TEXT:** Philippians 1:12-26 (Pew Bible/Pg. 1151/
New Testament)

HOW TO LIVE NOW FOR ETERNITY

I. YOU NEED A **PERSPECTIVE** TO LIVE **FROM** (1:12-14)

- A. The most significant thing about your problems is not your **type** of problems, but rather how you **view** your problems.

There are two major perspectives on problems:

1. **Human** perspective – Why is this happening to **me**?
2. **Divine** perspective – What is **God** seeking to do?

- B. Paul recognized God’s perspective when he shared that his imprisonment had led to the evangelization of the **unsaved** (vs 12-13) and the encouragement of the **saved** (v 14).

*“16 Rejoice always,
17 pray without ceasing,
18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in
Christ Jesus for you.”* I Thessalonians 5:16-18

- C. Life Lesson: Know that God can take your **bad** problems and accomplish **good** things.

*“28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.
29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.”* Romans 8:28-29

II. YOU NEED A **PRIORITY** TO LIVE **BY** (1:15-18)

- A. Focus on what **really** **counts** by majoring on major things and minoring on minor things.

“And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15

- B. Paul’s priority was to present Christ and not argue over **trivial** matters.

“But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.” Acts 20:24

- C. Life Lesson: Don’t get **sidetracked** by petty disagreements.

“And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,” II Timothy 2:24

III. YOU NEED A **POWER** TO LIVE **ON** (1:19)

- A. The pressures of life **drain** your strength.

“For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life.” II Corinthians 1:8

- B. Paul’s **source** of strength was:

1. The prayers of other believers.
2. The Spirit of Jesus Christ.

- C. Life Lesson: Rely on **God’s** strength, not your **own** strength.

“The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him.” Psalm 28:7