

3- Here's Where God is Taking You

Central Question: What hopes and goals are directing your life?

I. Our Search for Meaning and Significance in Life

A. Meaning Makers

B. What is and What Could be

The two-fold problem with our fantasies:

1. They _____ us to the blessings that are in our life
2. They focus on changing the things _____ NOT the things _____.

C. Conflicting Dreams

The change he is working in us is generally not the change we dream about!

1. **2 Corinthians 5:15** And he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

2. **2 Peter 1:3–4** His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

Positive personal change takes place when _____ of change line up with _____ .

II. Pursuing the Right Kind of Change

A. Something Worth Dreaming About (Philippians 1:3–11)

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Philippians 1:3–11 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

1. What is the source of Paul's confidence?
2. What is Paul so joyful about?
3. In verse 9–11, what kind of growth does Paul pray for in the Philippians?
4. What does this prayer expose about your *current* prayer life? How might this prayer help you realign your personal hopes and your prayers?

B. Living With the Destination in View

It is important the You and I remember that we are living in the _____ of the story, (the time between the First and Second Coming of Christ).

When the story began Adam and Eve were tempted to sin in hopes they would become like God. But, in the end of the story every believer will become like God and live forever with him! This is important for three reasons:

1. If you want to go in the right direction, you need to know _____.
2. The details of your life only make sense when viewed from _____.
3. _____ teaches us what is really important in life.

Revelation 7:9–17 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

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¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

C. Destination Clarifies our Values

1. By God's grace, you are being _____ from the one thing that can completely destroy you— _____.
2. But God is not only delivering you, he is _____ you.

CPR

Central Point: living with God's ultimate destination in view gives hope and perspective in our daily situations and relationships.

Personal Application: I need to know what kind of hope directs my life. Functionally what am I really living for?

Relational Application: I need to look for ways to help others live with the final destination in view.

Questions:

What dreams and expectations get you through the day and give you hope for the future? Do you ever feel hopeless? What produces that sense of despair? What were you hoping for and not getting?

How do things you hope and work for shape your responses to people and circumstances? When people threaten your hopes and goals, how do you react?

Pick one place of opportunity and pressure, difficulty or blessing, there you need to view yourself as changed and carried by Christ? How will that perspective change your response to that situation?

D.