

Glad Tidings

Romans 10:15

May 1, 2022

What Is Your Aim In Life?

It is getting close to the time of the year when high school students are graduating, and they either have



made or are making plans for the future. They are deciding about which college to attend, what to major in, and what career they will embark upon. Most all have aims or aspirations for their lives. As Christians this should be true of all of us as well, regardless of our

age. What is our aim or goal in life?

The Greek word, *philotimeomai*, is used three times in the New Testament. In the NKJV it translated “aspire” once and “aim” twice. This word is defined as “make it one’s ambition or aim, endeavor, aspire” (A Concise Greek-English Dictionary of the New Testament). There are three great lessons taught us in these verses which I would like for us to consider.

“Therefore, we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him” (2 Cor. 5:9).

While in the physical body, the apostle was absent from the Lord (2 Cor. 5:6). Yet he knew if he walked by faith (2 Cor. 5:7), making it his aim to be well pleasing

to God, he had great confidence he would be present with Him (2 Cor. 5:8). Judgment was coming and he had to appear before the judgment seat of Christ just like all men (2 Cor. 5:10). The only way for one to hear the words “well done good and faithful servant (Matt. 25:21), was to please God. Then throughout all eternity he would be with His Father, praising and adoring Him, continually pleasing Him.

Is there anything more noble we could do with our lives than to be well pleasing to Jehovah? We should always strive to think upon things which are pure, just, and holy (Prov. 23:7; Phil. 4:8). The words from our mouths should reflect a pure heart from which they come (Matt. 12:34-38). Our actions or deeds should show to others we are the Lord’s servants, not trying to call attention to ourselves (Matt. 6:1-4), but to glorify God (Matt. 5:16). Seeking every opportunity to assemble with the people of God to worship our Lord (Heb. 10:25; Jn. 4:23-24; Psa. 122:1). This should be our aim in life.

“that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you” (1 Thessalonians 4:11).

It would certainly be wonderful if every member of the local church loved one another, and that love would abound (1 Thess. 4:9-10). From time-to-time problems will occur in the church. It could involve doctrine, but often it has to do with opinions or attitudes of the heart. Doctrinal issues are settled by determining what the Bible teaches on any given subject. Yet matters of opinion and attitudes displayed



could be easily solved if we simply loved each other. Thayer defines the word “quiet” as, “to lead a quiet life, said of those who are not running hither and thither but stay at home and mind their business” (Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament). Busy working to provide for our family and for those who are in need (Eph. 4:28). By making this your aim, think of the good one can do in the local church but also the influence you can have on those who are outside (1 Thess. 4:12).

“And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man's foundation” (Rom. 15:20).

Paul obviously wanted to take the gospel to places it had never gone before. This was a man who was dedicated to sharing the power of God unto salvation with those who were lost (Rom. 1:13-17). Most are not able to go places where the gospel has never gone and even to places where it has been shared. Yet there is a lot we all can do in making sure people are taught this good news about Jesus Christ. Can you tell someone what you did to be saved? Give an individual a Bible Correspondence Course? Set up a Bible study and even if you can't teach the class, I am sure someone would volunteer to do so? Provide financial support for one who can go or one who is already preaching in some area? Are you busy praying for those who are preaching this message? Jesus said, “Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. “Therefore, pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers



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into His harvest” (Matt. 9:37-38). Our aim should be, “Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you” (1 Tim. 4:16).

If our aim is to please God, live a quiet life, and do all we can to share the gospel with those who are lost, when our time on earth is no more, our life has not been lived in vain. What is your aim?

Jim Mickells

A few words of love can make a world of difference!

Order of Worship May 1, 2022

Song Leader—AM	Michael Young
Song Leader—PM	Matthew Frazier
Lord's Table	Phillip Steen
Sermon—AM	Devin Barber
Sermon—PM	Devin Barber

Pray for our nation and the Ukrainian war to come to an end NOW! Also, continue prayers for those that we've been asked to pray for, and for the free course of the gospel. *1 John 5:14*

Editor: Steve Frazier

Marietta church of Christ

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Meeting times of the church

Sunday

09:00 am Bible Classes

10:00 am Worship 05:00 pm Evening Worship

Wednesday

7:00 pm Bible classes

Evangelist: Devin Barber

Phone: 904-210-5036

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Hebrews 10:24-25