

**CREATED FOR GOD'S
PLEASURE**

(1). WHAT IS MY LIFE?

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- (James 4:14) *Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appears for a little time, and then vanishes away.*
- (James 4:15) *For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.*
- (James 4:16) *But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.*

(A). INTRODUCTION

- a. We are controlled by something or someone.
- b. Lots of circumstances, values and relationships.

(Ecclesiastes 4:4) *Again, I considered all travail, and every right work, that for this a man is envied of his neighbour. This is also vanity and vexation of spirit.*

(A). INTRODUCTION

MATERIALISM

To Acquire

(James 4:4) *Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.*

(A). INTRODUCTION

HAVING FUN

Life is a circus!

Sex, drugs and violence

(1 John 2:15,16) Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

(A). INTRODUCTION

GUILT

Regrets and shame

(Gen 4:5-7) But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

(A). INTRODUCTION

WORLD

1. Anger:

Fight, Flight or Freeze!

(Job 5:2) *For wrath kills the foolish man, and envy slays the silly one.*

2. Fear:

Failure, Rejection

(1 Jn 4:18) *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear: because fear hath torment. He that fears is not made perfect in love.*

(A). INTRODUCTION

APPROVAL

Expectations

(Mat 6:24) No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

(Proverbs 29:25) *The fear of man brings a snare: but whoso puts his trust in the LORD shall be safe.*

(A). INTRODUCTION

(Col 1:16) For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him:

1. It is not about me or you.
2. It is all about GOD!
3. It is marked by GOD.

(B). WHAT IS LIFE [1]?

GOD is Number One

Supreme

(1Ti 2:5) *For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*

Pre-existent

(Gen 1:1) *In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*

(B). WHAT IS LIFE [1]?

GOD is Number One

Omniscient

(Pro 15:3) The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

Omnipresent

(Jer 23:24) Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.

Omnipotent

(Mat 19:26) *But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.*

(B). WHAT IS LIFE [1]?

GOD is Number One

Eternal

(Psa 90:2) Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

Unchanging

(Mal 3:6) For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Holy

(Psa 99:9) Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God is holy.

(B). WHAT IS LIFE [1]?

GOD is Number One

Just

(Psa 119:137) Righteous art Thou, O LORD, and upright are Thy judgments.

Love

(1Jn 4:8) *He that loves not knows not God; for God is love.*

(C). WHAT IS LIFE [2]?

(Rev 4:11 KJV) *Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created.*

1. Life is to bring Him pleasure.
2. Life is to fulfill His will.
3. Life is to rich in faith and good works.
4. Life is to bring Him glory.

(Isaiah 43:7) *Even every one that is called by My Name: for I have created him for My glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.*

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

LIFE IS A TEST!

(Heb 12:11) Now no chastening for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

(Hebrews 12:6). For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

LIFE IS A TEST!

1. Words like “trials”, “testing” used 200x
2. Some passed while others failed.
3. Character both revealed and developed.
4. Major tests involve major changes.

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

LIFE IS A TEST!

5. Example of Joseph (Gen. 37-45).
(Treachery, Temptation, Disappointment, Success, Bitterness)
 - a. He needed time to mature.
 - b. Divine promotion is important.
 - c. All divine instruments to prove him.
 - d. Overall plan of God seen.

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

LIFE IS A TEST!

6. God promises to enable us.

(Philippians 4:13) *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

7. He makes plans to reward us.

(James 1:12) *Blessed is the man that endures temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.*

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

LIFE IS A TRUST!

(Luk 12:48) *For whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.*

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

LIFE IS A TRUST!

1. Jesus often refers to life as a trust.

(Parables of stewardship, Luke 16)

2. God loans life to us.

(1 Corinthians 6:19) What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

(1 Corinthians 6:20) For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

LIFE IS A TRUST!

3. We will be evaluated.

(Matthew 25:21) His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

LIFE IS A TEMPORARY!

(Psa 39:4) LORD, make me to know my end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.

(Job 14:5) Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with Thee, Thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass;

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

LIFE IS A TEMPORARY!

1. Words used: mist, breath, shadow.
2. Citizens of Heaven – live like citizens.

(1 Peter 2:11) Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.

3. Ambassadors – shine for Jesus

(2 Corinthians 5:20) Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

LIFE IS A TEMPORARY!

4. Life is preparation for eternity.

5. Serve faithfully in the assignment.

(Hebrews 11:13) *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.*

(Hebrews 11:16) *But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.*

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

THREE GREAT TRUTHS!

1. God-centered against self-centered
2. Grow to be like Jesus.
3. Make a difference for God and in lives.

(D). THREE KEYS TO LIVING LIFE

WHAT WILL GOD SAY?

(Mat 25:21) *His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

(Mat 25:26-29) *His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, ...*

Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

(2). PLEASURE OF GOD

(Isa 46:9,10) Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure.

(A). INTRODUCTION

1. Changed names: – Benoni – son of sorrow, into Benjamin – son of right hand of honour, power and glory
(Gen. 35:18; Heb. 12:2)
2. God's perspective: Inner satisfaction of His pleasure, rejoicing, enjoyment

(B). PLEASURE IN HIS SON

1. All fullness

(Col 1:19) “*For it pleased the Father that in Him should all fullness dwell.*”

2. (Mark 1:11) “*And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”*

(C). PLEASURE IN HIS SACRIFICE

1. Sacrifices of the old insufficient

(Heb 10:6) *“In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin Thou hast had no pleasure.”*

2. He delights in the redemptive work of Christ

(Isa 53:10) *“Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief: when Thou shalt make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.”*

(C). PLEASURE IN HIS SACRIFICE

3. Over Death

(1Co 15:54) So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

(1Co 15:55) O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

(C). PLEASURE IN HIS SACRIFICE

4. Over Satanic forces

(Col 2:14) Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross;

(Col 2:15) And having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

(C). PLEASURE IN HIS SACRIFICE

5. He delights in His obedience

(Isa 42:1) “Behold My Servant, whom I uphold; Mine elect, in whom My soul delights; I have put My Spirit upon Him: He shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.”

(Heb 5:8) Though He was Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered;

(D). PLEASURE IN SEEING SINNERS REPENT

1. No pleasure

(Eze 18:23) Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?

(Eze 18:32) For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

(D). PLEASURE IN SEEING SINNERS REPENT

2. He is not willing that any should perish

(2 Pe 3:9) “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

3. He gives man time to repent because of His love and patience

(Heb 9:27) “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.”

(D). PLEASURE IN SEEING SINNERS REPENT

4. He has great joy when even one sinner turns to Him
(Luke 15:7) *“I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in Heaven over one sinner that repents, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.”*
5. *He that wins souls is wise* (Proverbs 11:30) and shines
(Dan 12:3) *“And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.”*

(F). PLEASURE FOR HIS OWN

1. He takes pleasure

(Psa 149:4) *“For the LORD taketh pleasure in His people: He will beautify the meek with salvation.”*

(Isa 62:4) *Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married.*

(Rev 19:9) *And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.*

(F). PLEASURE FOR HIS OWN

2. We are the apple of His eye
(Psalm 17:8; Zech. 2:8).

(Psa 17:8) Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

(Zec 2:8) *For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath He sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that touches you touches the apple of His eye.*

(F). PLEASURE FOR HIS OWN

3. He is trustworthy and faithful

(Psa 22:8) “He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing He delighted in him.”

4. He fights for us (Deut. 3:22), helps us (Psalm 46:1) as our fortress and refuge (Ps. 144:2).

(Deu 3:22) Ye shall not fear them: for the LORD your God He shall fight for you.

(F). PLEASURE FOR HIS OWN

5. He prospers us

(Psa 35:27) “Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour My righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of His servant.” The riches of His grace (Eph. 2:7); the riches of His glory (Eph. 3:16; Phil. 4:19).

(Eph 3:16) That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man;

(F). PLEASURE FOR HIS OWN

6. In His right Hand, there are pleasure forever

(Psalm 16:11). Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in Thy presence is fullness of joy; at Thy right Hand there are pleasures for evermore.

(Rev 21:3) And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the Tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God.

(G). PLANNED AND PURPOSED

1. We are created for His pleasure.

(Revelation 4:11) *Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

2. We are saved for His pleasure.

(Ephesians 1:5) *Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.*

(G). PLANNED AND PURPOSED

3. Bringing pleasure is called lifestyle of worship.

(John 4:23) But the hour comes, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeks such to worship Him.

(G). PLANNED AND PURPOSED

4. We need to understand what true worship is.

a. More than an expression of worship

b. More than music.

c. Not for our benefit.

(Isaiah 29:13) Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near Me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour Me, but have removed their heart far from Me, and their fear toward Me is taught by the precept of men:

d. All of our life – worship is our life.

(Psalms 34:1) I will bless the LORD at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

(1 Corinthians 10:31) Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

(H). GIVING HIM PLEASURE

1. Love Him supremely

(Matthew 22:37) *Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.*

a. Noah loved God when no one else did.

(Genesis 6:9) *Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.*

b. God loves us and desires our love.

(Hosea 6:6) *For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.*

(H). GIVING HIM PLEASURE

2. Love Him completely.

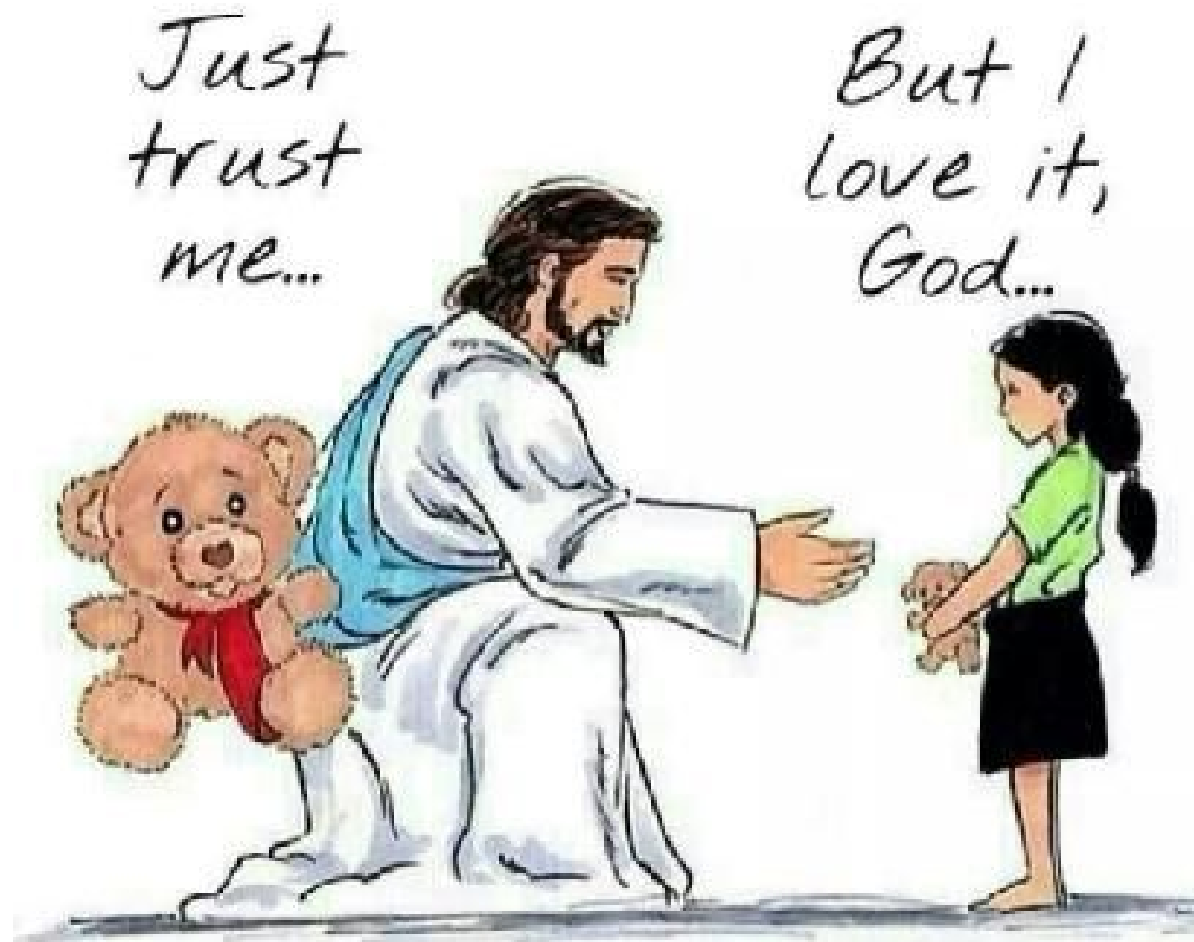
(Psalms 147:11) *The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear Him, in those that hope in His mercy.*

a. Noah trusted God when it did not make sense.

(Hebrews 11:7) *By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.*

b. We trust Him even when we do not understand.

(H). GIVING HIM PLEASURE



(H). GIVING HIM PLEASURE

3. Obey Him whole-heartedly

(Genesis 6:22) *Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.*

- a. He obeyed completely and exactly.
- b. With no questioning, hesitation.
- c. Understanding can wait, obedience cannot.
- d. Heart of worship is surrender.

(John 14:15) *If you love me, keep My commandments.*

(H). GIVING HIM PLEASURE

4. Praise Him continually.

(1 Thessalonians 5:18) In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

a. Noah's first act was to sacrifice.

(Genesis 8:20) *And Noah built an altar unto the LORD; ... and offered burnt offerings on the altar.*

b. We offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and praise.

c. In return, our hearts rejoice.

(Psalms 68:3) *But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice.*

(H). GIVING HIM PLEASURE

5. Use our abilities and gifts

(Genesis 9:1) *And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.*

a. Get on with life ... be human.

b. No separation of spiritual and secular.

(Psalms 37:23) *The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and He delights in his way.*

c. All abilities used are pleasing to Him.

(Psalms 33:15) *He fashions their hearts alike; He considers all their works.*

(H). GIVING HIM PLEASURE

5. Use our abilities and gifts

d. He rejoices over us.

(Zephaniah 3:17) The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; He will save, He will rejoice over thee with joy; He will rest in his love, He will joy over thee with singing.

(1 Timothy 6:17) Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

(H). GIVING HIM PLEASURE

6. Enjoy in each own way:
- a. Sensates – worship with senses
 - b. Naturalists – worship outdoors
 - c. Traditionalists – liturgy
 - d. Ascetics – solitude and simplicity
 - e. Activists – battling injustices
 - f. Caregivers – human needs
 - g. Enthusiasts – celebration
 - h. Contemplates – adoration
 - i. Intellectuals – studying with minds

(H). GIVING HIM PLEASURE

7. In church, all to be done decently and in order.

(1 Corinthians 14:40) Let all things be done decently and in order.

A witness to unbelievers also – understandable

(1 Corinthians 14:16) *Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupies the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understands not what thou say?*

(1 Corinthians 14:17) *For thou verily give thanks well, but the other is not edified.*

THOUGHTS TO PONDER

1. Since God knows what is best for me, in what area of my life do I need to trust Him most?
2. What area am I holding back from God?
3. What practical choices will I make now in order to grow closer to my Heavenly Father?

REFLECTIONS

1. As Jesus endured the Cross and despised the shame, what was the joy set before Him?

(Heb 12:2) *Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith ... and is set down at the Right Hand of the Throne of God. Above all names.*

(Rev 7:9,10) *After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the Throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;*

And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sits upon the Throne, and unto the Lamb.

REFLECTIONS

2. As we have been made and bought back by His pleasure and for His pleasure (Rev. 4:11), would we not get to know Him (Phil. 3:10)?

(Rev 4:11) Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created.

(Php 3:10) That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death;

REFLECTIONS

3. As we have been made and bought back by His pleasure and for His pleasure (Rev. 4:11), would we not make Him known (1 Cor. 9:22)?

(1Co 9:22) To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

(Psa 126:6) He that goes forth and weeps, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing His sheaves with Him.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Please share three blessings that you have received in the teaching. Be specific and in detail.
2. Please share three ways how you can use the session teaching in your own personal life or in your ministry. Please give examples of the issues and your plans to resolve them and to grow.



**NEED
HELP?**

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