

Our Goals and God's Purpose

What are your goals in life? Have you thought about them? Do you have short-term goals and long range plans which you can define and which are attainable? What is your primary purpose in life?

There are people who can clearly and concisely tell you exactly where they are going and how they intend to get there. Sometimes I envy them, but, what I would like you to reflect on today is your thoughts over the past few days.

It is my suspicion that the things we think about in the quiet moments of life will reveal what the real goals of our lives are. Using the frequency of what we think about as a measuring tool, we will discover what our real goals are. Those internal goals cover whole spheres of both rational and non-rational agendas, desires, gods, and fears.

Sometimes our goal is to secure this job or that car or receive the approval, love, or recognition from a certain person or group of people. Occasionally our goal and desire is to “get even” with a particular person or justification from others.

Sometimes our goals have to do with security, physical or monetary security, either in the immediate sense or for the future. Occasionally we are just reflecting on the bliss of the plenty and peace and ease we enjoy now.

Obviously, as Christians, we would like to say that our primary goal in life is to love and serve the Lord. If that were true, those things would be constantly at the forefront of our minds.

So, now let us reflect honestly on the thoughts of the last half hour. What about the hour between seven and eight this morning? What was the first thought in the morning or the last thought last night? Those thoughts and the sum of the thoughts in between give a clear indication of what our real goals and gods in life are.

Scripture offers the following counsel: *Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.* [Col.3]

Father, I see that my mind and my affections are often focused on the things of this world rather than on You and Your kingdom. Please, forgive me and please, please give me a singular heart that is ever-focused on YOU. Amen.