

iLife: Actions, Concepts, & Commitments of the Christian life

iExist

Introduction: Computers have become the household “necessity.” Aside from my personal purchase of a Mac and loving it, I have been intrigued by the little “i” in front of their product names: iMac, iPod, iPhone, iTunes, iLife, iWork, iPhoto, iChat, iMovie, iWeb... and you get the picture. I want to take the stickiness of that little “i” and incorporate that into a series of lessons that speak to the “I” part of the Christian life. That one letter word is perhaps one of the biggest of all words. It’s speak of me, MY actions, MY commitments. It’s the “me” mentality that brings “me” to responsibility.

I. It All Starts With God

- A. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible... all things were created through him and for him. (Col. 1:16) It’s not about you.
 1. The purpose of your life is far greater than your own personal fulfillment, your peace of mind, or even your happiness.
 2. If you want to know why you were placed on this plant, you must begin with God.
- B. Atheist, Bertrand Russell said this: “Unless you assume a God, the question of life’s purpose is meaningless.”
- C. The search for purpose of life has puzzled people for as long as mankind has existed. We begin at the wrong starting point—ourselves.
 1. We ask self-centered questions:
 2. But focusing on ourselves will never reveal our life’s purpose.
 3. You were made *by* and *for* God—and until you understand that, life will never make sense.
- D. It’s only by God that we discover our origin, our identity, our meaning, our purpose, our significance, and our destiny.
- E. I Exist for a purpose.
- F. How do I discover the purpose for which I was created?

II. I Exist In the Image of God

- A. Genesis 1:26. What does that mean that I’m created in the image/ likeness of God?
- B. “Be holy for I am holy.”

iExist (continued)

III. What Drives My Life?

- A. Everyone’s life is driven by something.
 1. Many are driven by guilt.
 2. Many are driven by resentment and anger.
 3. Many are driven by fear.
 4. Many are driven by materialism.
 5. Many are driven by the need for approval.
- B. The benefits of a life that’s driven by purpose.
 1. Knowing your purpose gives meaning to your life.
 2. Knowing your purpose simplifies your life.
 3. Knowing you purpose focuses your life.
 4. Knowing your purpose motivates your life.
 5. Knowing your purpose prepares you for eternity.

IV. I Am Made To Last Forever

- A. This life is not all there is.
- B. Eccl. 3:11. God has put eternity in the hearts of men.
- C. This life is preparation for the next—eternity.
- D. 2 Cor. 5:6. Time here is time spent away from our eternal home with Jesus.
- E. Since I was made to last forever, what is the one thing I should stop doing and the one thing I should start doing today?

V. Seeing Life From God’s View

- A. Life on earth is a test.
- B. Life on earth is a trust.

Conclusion: Life on earth is a temporary assignment. (Psa. 39:4) Don’t get too attached. The fact that earth is not our ultimate home explains why, as followers of Jesus, we experience difficulty, sorrow, and rejection in this world. And it explains why some of God’s promises seem unfulfilled, some prayers seem unanswered, and some circumstances seem unfair. This life is not the end of the story.