



Wednesday, June 11, 2025

WOW – Word on Wednesday
The Pathway to a Purposeful Life
Philippians 3:10-14

Intro: Everyone of us is driven by something. What is driving your life? Is it fear? Is it anger? Is it remorse? Is it ambition? The desire to please? The accumulation of possessions? Without a God-given purpose to shape our life, we become driven by destructive influences.

1. Knowing Your Pathway to Purpose Gives Meaning to Your Life

“I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me!”

vs 12

- a. Without God, life has no purpose, and without purpose, life has no meaning, without meaning, life has no significance. Romans 8:28
- b. The greatest tragedy is not death, the greatest tragedy is to live without purpose. Psalm 138:8
- c. Jesus gives love, forgiveness, and hope through friendship.
- d. Hope is essential to life as air and water is essential for living. You need hope to cope.
- e. When you know who you are and Who’s you are, your perspective, personality, and persona change for purpose. Ecclesiastes 3:1

2. Knowing Your Pathway to Purpose Simplifies Your Life

- a. “One thing you lack” – Jesus says to the young rich man in Mark 10.
- b. “Only one thing is needed” – Jesus has to say to an over-worked and hypercritical Martha in Luke 10.
- c. “One thing I know” – cries the man who had received his sight by the power of Jesus, in John 9.
- d. Often we are involved in too many things; only one thing matters to God.
- e. God’s purpose for you today – this moment, this one thing that I have desired! No one succeeds by doing everything.
- f. Paul is single-minded about his ambition (one thing I do). Habakkuk 2:3
- g. This does not mean we neglect everything else.
- h. Paul is teaching us that without a clear purpose we lack the foundation on which to base our decisions, allocate our time, or use our resource.

Rick Warren says wisely, “Purpose driven living leads to a simpler lifestyle and a saner schedule.”

3. Knowing Your Pathway to Purpose Focuses Your Life

“I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do; forgetting what is behind and stretching toward what is ahead.”

vs 13

- a. Paul here is describing the athletic stretching out, straining every muscle as he goes flat out for the finish.
- b. Why build a focused life? Because the quality of your life is determined By what you choose to pay attention to. Proverbs 4:25
- c. Your attention determines your work. 2 Chronicles 15:7
- d. Your attention determines your mood.
- e. Your attention determines your relationships – it cultivates deeper relationships with people who matter most.
- f. Building a life of focus isn't about eliminating entertainment! Hebrews 12:2
- g. It's about reclaiming some of our attention and aiming it at the things we choose, rather than the things that have been chosen for us.