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Living A 24 Carat Life In 2024

The Life I Have vs. The Life I Want

Genesis 1-3

Evaluation Questions:

Am I comparing my life to the world or to His Word? Am I in an intimate relationship with the Father? Am I in a deep relationship with others? Do I live with confidence or doubt? Am I fulfilled or feeling empty?

Three Keys To A 24k Life

1. WISDOM from God's WORD

Proverbs 1:7, 2:1-8

2. WORK from a place of WORSHIP

Genesis 2:15, Exodus 20:8-11, Psalm 100:1-2, Romans 12:1, Colossians 3:23-24

The PAIN of the PRESENT often seems easier than the PAIN of PROGRESS.

3. Trade my WILL for His WAY

Luke 22:42, Matthew 6:10

I can either live out the **PUNISHMENTS** or live out His **PROMISES**.

Application:

PLAN the work. WORK the plan.

What area do you need to work instead of avoid? What is preventing a 24k life?

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Food for Thought for the week of December 31, 2023

This weekend, Trent challenged us to think about the life we have versus the life we want. As you look at each of the evaluation questions he posed in the beginning of his message, be honest with yourself about where you are. Are there any of the five questions you wish you had a different answer for?

One of the three keys to "a life of 24k gold" is wisdom. A simple way to describe wisdom is understanding how to live our lives as God desires, which is revealed in His Word. Almost like understanding a language, wisdom allows us to be hearers and doers of God's Word and to walk uprightly, choosing the best course of action when faced with the different paths of life.

Read the following verses and notice how Scripture talks about wisdom.

Proverbs 4:5-9 New International Version (NIV)

- ⁵ Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn away from them.
- ⁶ Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you.
- ⁷ The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding.
- ⁸ Cherish her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you.
- ⁹ She will give you a garland to grace your head and present you with a glorious crown."

Proverbs 16:16 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁶ How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver!

James 1:2-5 New International Version (NIV)

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. ⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Scripture paints wisdom as imperative and attainable, saying that if we ask God for it, He will give it to us. How would you describe the pursuit of wisdom in your life? Would you say these verses reflect how you have treated wisdom in your journey of faith?

Aside from God's Word, are there other ways you seek out wisdom? What has been the greatest source of wisdom in your life? Is there something you want to focus on more or a change you want to make to seek wisdom better?

As you consider the two application questions Trent gave at the end of his message, ask God for wisdom to understand if there are areas of your life that could use more alignment with God's Word, and how to go about making a plan and working it.