

Songs about life can be some of the most powerful pieces of music out there. They can make you reflect on your own life, and make you think about the decisions that you have made. They can also make you think about the path that your life is taking, and where it may lead in the future.

[The Story of My Life Marty Robbins](#)

[In My Life Song by The Beatles](#)

Video Clip – Bing Crosby – That’s life

What is the purpose of life ? Everyone’s life is driven by something. Whom or what things claim to give you more in life, but then regularly let you down? Trying to discover your life purpose can be a stressful, an overwhelming thing. History shows us that leaving God out of society doesn’t lead to flourishing – it actually leads to a place of horror, a place of darkness, a place of suffering and a place of human pain. Humanism is a way of life where God is left out of equation, and with science and technology we can control our own lives.

To know the purpose in life we must begin with God. We were born by his purpose and for his purpose. It is God who directs the lives of his creatures; everyone’s life is in his power.

God is not just the starting point of our lives; he is the source of it. **He is in control of all things and every season of life.**

We all love a laugh at life – sometimes we laugh at ourselves, and generally comedy brings laughter. As Australians we are generally a happy people after all we live in a lucky country (according to Donald Thorn) – enjoying life. And there is a time in most people's lives when they contemplate what life is all about or wonder where life is going. You know the feeling of pointless work. Without a purpose, life is motion without meaning, activity without direction and events without reason.

Life as we know it ends – it's fragile and unreliable. The bible says "A pretentious life is an empty life -it's the abrupt end to life (death) that stalks us throughout our days. Injustice and death are so severe, and so obviously outside of our control, they show us we need God. Nothing matters more than knowing God's purposes for life, and nothing can compensate for not knowing him. Knowing your purpose gives meaning and motivation to life. The smile of God is the goal of life.

Im' sure we've all heard some of these quotations:-

(i) Like the clip we've just seen [that's life] (ii) Life's tough (iii) Live life to the fullest.

But what does does that mean ?

Solomon expresses regret over his own wayward life and paths. He unmask the vanity of the secular life.

**Life is futile**                      **burdensome - trying to catch the wind.**

**Life is fragile**                      **the ultimate meaning is NOT found in life as we know it**

**Life is repetitive**                      **the predictability of days/seasons - natural order**

**Life is insatiable**                      **the ultimate reality - not found in things**

**Life is unchangeable**                      **the more things change - the more things remain the same**

**Life is insignificant**                      **Solomon asks the question - to wake us up**

We tend to live and believe common sense wisdom - we live by cliques and one liners.

When we try to find value, security and meaning in these we chase the wind. Waking up

feeling purposeless is incredibly frustrating. Life is fleeting, meaningless in a closed

universe without God. If you rule out the possibility of God what is the POINT of life?

(PAUSE).

**To know life is ordered and has purpose makes all the difference.** - realising life on earth

is just a temporary assignment should radically alter our values. Without God life makes no sense. Tennis star Boris Becker was at the very top of the tennis world – yet he was on the brink of suicide. He said, “I had won Wimbledon twice. I was rich, I had all the material possessions I needed . yet I was so unhappy. I felt a sense of emptiness. **Clearly you can have everything yet have nothing without God.**

But the man who is God came in the flesh, to suffer and die for the sins of the world so to reconcile people to God with forgiveness and eternal life. Our relationship with God on earth determines our relationship to him in eternity, and when we live in the light of eternity our values change – you use your time and money more wisely. You place a higher premium on relationships and character instead of fame or wealth or achievements.

The book of Ecclesiastes deals with life and death and the meaning of it all! King Solomon had it all – wealth, fame/ wisdom, pleasure, power, money, and his work to try and find satisfaction. But God wasn't part of it. And he was ultimately dissatisfied.. After trying his hand at pretty much everything, nothing brings him lasting satisfaction. At the conclusion he comes to the realisation – the refrain of Ecclesiastes “**Meaningless, meaningness** – it's utterly meaningless. All these things I've been pursuing – the very

things we chase is like chasing after the wind. They don't last – here one day gone the next.

It is futile and empty - **-From an earthly perspective it was all pointless!**

Solomon discovered the futility of life when it is lived only for this world. He gives these concluding remarks in the book of Ecclesiastes: "Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. "For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil" ([Ecclesiastes 12:13-14](#)). Solomon says that life is all about honouring God with our thoughts and lives and thus keeping His commandments; for one day we will stand before Him in judgment. **Our purpose in life is to fear God and obey Him.** And when we recognise God's plan for our lives we can make our decision with freedom in God's covenant.

In Ecclesiastes Ch 3 v 1 Solomon sees life's outside our control. What gain is there, for a lot of hard work, if we're not sure we'll get what we aim for? We can't not dance to the tune of life, if life is outside our control! Solomon makes it clear – God set the tune to the dance of life – He is the one who made life the way it is, and he made it that way so that we will revere him (to have relationship with him).

The purpose of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. We glorify God by fearing and obeying Him, keeping our eyes on our future home in heaven, knowing Him

intimately, enjoy fellowship with Him, and have good relationships with others. His purpose for our lives enables us to experience true and lasting joy – the abundant life that He desires for us.

God decided to give us life through the word of truth. And it's through Jesus that we have a clear picture of God's control over those things that we have absolutely no control over – like injustice, death and the life after death. In Romans 13:3 says "The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and what he does for us.

We read in John 17:3, The meaning of life would be incomplete without knowing Jesus as the one who came to restore God's original design in us. He comes that people may have life in Him that is meaningful, purposeful, joyful, and eternal. We receive this abundant life as we accept Jesus as our Saviour, committing ourselves completely to Jesus Christ, receiving his forgiveness for our sins, and receiving the Holy Spirit to have a joyful, ambitious, purposeful life. **A life that is eternal, and not the temporal.**

Paul admonishes us, "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God" ([Colossians 3:2-3](#))

One of the first things we should do in our search for God's purpose is Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Trying to discover your life purpose, can

seem like such a big, confusing, frustrating subject. You want to move forward, but you're not sure how. You want to find your purpose, but you feel like you're aimlessly wandering.

**But** you can trust God to lead you where he wants you to go. As Psalm 23:2-3 says, "He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

Jesus said "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but have the light of life, and I am the good shepherd, I know my sheep - I give them eternal life.

So then what is our chief purpose in life?

In 1 Corinthians 10:31 It says our chief purpose in life is to glorify God in everything we do and to enjoy him forever, so whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

We cannot fulfil God's purposes for our lives while focusing on our own plans for our own glory. God wants to give you a purpose. He desires you to have a joyful, and purposeful life.

Determining your passions often helps you figure out what God has called you to do. It's often said that God works at the intersection of our gifts and our passions (ILLUSTRATION). Where do your gifts meet your passions? That may be God's purpose for you. You can trust God to lead you where he wants you to go.."

So how do we live for God? How do fulfil our purpose ? The Bible says "Take on entirely a new way of life that Jesus has for us - a God-fashioned life, a life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you, the character of Christ.

Amen