

## Teen Topics

### Living in the World (Part 4)

When you think about your life, what is it that you are living for? What are your goals and ambitions? What do you desire for your future? The answers to these questions will determine the decisions you make as your life moves forward.

#### ***Considering the Motives for What We Do***

There are a lot of things in this life that people pursue. Many people dedicate their lives to things like landing a dream job, buying a lavish house, and having a lot of money in the bank. While these things in and of themselves may not be bad, we must consider the motive behind what we do. Many goals we have are based on trying to “prove” ourselves by living up to or exceeding the expectations that our family, friends, or culture puts on us. Others pursue goals that will make their lives easy and comfortable, hoping to find security in the things they have. However, God does not call us to live self-centered lives focused on our own desires or comforts.

> What should the goal of our life be ([Phil. 3:12-14](#))? That our lives would be lived in a way worthy of our calling in Christ.

#### ***Understanding the Joy of Surrender***

When we realize that our lives are not about us, but about living for and pleasing our Creator, we are truly able to live focused on Christ. We are then able to dedicate our abilities, time, and yes, even the dreams we have for our future, to Him. This is genuine surrender of ourselves to Christ!

> What should we give over to God according to [Romans 12:1-2](#)? Ourselves! All of who we are should be for God's use!

When we abandon our own desires and replace them with a wholehearted commitment to live for Christ, we find the true meaning and joy that comes with living life as God intended!