



**Only one life, 'twill soon be past;
Only what's done for Christ will last.**

HOW TO NOT WASTE YOUR LIFE!

Romans 12:1 *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

What is the Will of God for My ONE & ONLY Life?

1. HUMBLY SERVE GOD'S PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH

Romans 12:3 *For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. ⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.*

- A. View yourself accurately—like **GOD** sees you!
- B. See yourself as a unique member of a large, diverse, interdependent “**BODY**” of believers.
- C. Recognize your **GIFTINGS** and use them to bless the body, while appreciating the gifts and contribution of **OTHERS**.
- D. Love your church family with pure, honoring, fervent, patient, prayerful, generous love and **AFFECTION**.

HOW HAS GOD WIRED YOU TO LOVE ON
YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS IN THIS CHURCH?

2. HAPPILY SHOW GOD'S MERCY TO THE WORLD

Romans 12:14 *Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰ To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

- A. Realize that you might be **RIDICULED**, but respond mercifully
- B. Come alongside others humbly, not with arrogance, and be **EMPATHETIC** to their situation
- C. Seek peace and **HARMONY** with all as much as possible
- D. Leave **REVENGE** to God
- E. Beat **EVIL** with good

HOW IS GOD LEADING YOU TO SHOW HIS MERCY TO THOSE
WHO ARE NOT YET BELIEVERS?

“Remember, you have one life. That’s all. You were made for God. Don’t waste it.” – John Piper

**Steve Benninger, Lead Pastor
New Life Church/July 2 & 3, 2016**