

Before Christ our lives were aimless, after, for many, it still lacks purpose

1 Pet 1:17 **You call him Father, when you pray to God...then, spend the rest of your lives here on earth in reverence for Him.**

18-19 **For you know what was paid to set you free from the aimless manner of life handed down by your ancestors. It was not something that can be destroyed, such as silver or gold; it was the costly sacrifice of Christ...TEV/NKJV**

Rom 1:21-22 **Although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile (aimless) in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools (in God's eyes),**

Acts 7:51 **You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.**

What are some of the most common characteristics of what God calls an aimless life?

- To make money and be able to spend money – and to be successful materially
- To create a name for myself, to fulfill and preserve the image I have of myself
- To have and to raise a family – (to do what, to follow in your footsteps, aimlessly?)
- To find happiness and fulfillment (in what – circumstances, people, and not in God?)
- To just get by and somehow make it to retirement (and what then, wait to die?)
- To help some others (with what motive, their needs or to make you feel better?)
- To find some things to stay occupied with in order to keep me from getting bored

Prov 14:14 **The backslider gets bored with themselves; the godly's life is exciting.**

Heb 6:12 **...You won't become bored with being a Christian nor spiritually dull and indifferent, but you will be eager to follow the example of those who receive all that God has promised them because of their strong faith and patience.** TLB

In complete contrast some of God's words describing those whose lives have His purpose

Rom 8:28 **We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose (who love to do His good will).**

2 Cor 5:15 **Christ died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.**

1 Pet 4:1 **Christ suffered human nature (and overcame it) for us, arm yourselves also with the same mind (the Holy Spirit), for those who suffer human nature (and by His wisdom and power overcome it) have ceased from sin (sin is doing my will),**

2 **So that they no longer should live the rest of their time as human beings to satisfy human desires, but for the will of God (the opposite of an aimless life).**