

Sermon Study Guide



Earning Your Life Stripes

May 30, 2021 | Dr. Stephen G. Tan

Reflect

Have you ever thought of your contribution to people within your influence? What are some of them?

Read and Discuss

Scripture

1 Chronicles 28:9

Discussion Questions

There are many people whose lives are aimless, unfulfilled, purposeless, and unsatisfactory because they don't know how they should live. Here are the three biblical principles found in 1 Chronicles 28:9 to help you find purpose and significance in his life:

1. **Know God with all of your heart (v. 9a).** What does it mean to *know* God? How is it different from just knowing *about* God? What do you do in order to better know the person you love? How would knowing God better enable you to respect Him more and to be bold for Him in whatever situation and setting He puts you in?
2. **Serve God with a loyal heart (v. 9a).** What does the word *loyal* mean? What happens when you do your work with all your heart? Why would serving the Lord with a loyal heart in any calling or job you have help you find life's purpose and satisfaction? What does doing everything for the glory of God mean?
3. **Find delight in knowing God (v. 9a).** What does it mean that in order to find purpose and significance, you have to serve God with a mind that is willing? Could you honestly say that you delight and enjoy serving the Lord? In what ways does it show? How does Colossians 3:16 explain what delighting in the Lord is all about? How are you living out what you know about the Bible?

4. **The reason to live out these principles is to be authentic witnesses for Jesus to the world (v. 9b).** Why is it impossible to fake a Christian life? Do you know that there are books in Heaven and these books are written about your life (Revelation 20)? In that case, how do you think your story will read?

Respond

In Walk: If you seek God, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever (v.9c). If you look for Jesus you will find help, and find strength. If you do this, what would happen or be the result? But what would happen if you don't seek God? Is worldly success worth eternal and spiritual failure? If it is, what steps should you take to earn your life stripes?

In Prayer: Heavenly Father, for most people, even for Christians like me, worldly success seems a great motivation to do my best effort in everything I do. But Lord, help me to find purpose in You, that when I strive to do my best, it is for Your sake and glory. Help me to fully understand that true success and purpose in this life is a life that is lived for You. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.