

Life is short. Or so they say. James 4:14 says that “you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.” Life in grade school passed very slowly and seemed like it would last forever, but in no time at all, we finished school and were sitting on the front porch of our own home with a car out front. Now, for most of us, our kids are grown and we realize that we have turned into our parents. Life is really, really short.

The primary questions that every human being has to answer are “Who am I? What am I doing here on earth? What is my purpose?” How we answer these questions will affect how our lives are judged.

If we wrongly listen to the voice of the world, we may define ourselves as, ‘I am a nurse.’ or ‘I live in the Hermitage neighborhood.’ Is the power of the world directing our spiritual steps? We may pray for God’s direction, but unless our hearts shift away from worldly motives, we will not know true guidance.

1 John 2:17 “The world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.” So, life does not have to be short after all - it can be forever. It is accomplished only by doing the Will of God - which brings us to the next question ‘What am I doing here on earth?’ Scripture tells us “Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” 1 John 4:11.

Ephesian 2:10 “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Did you know God has good works for you to do? If we listen to God’s guidance, He has a plan for us that includes many good works. These “works” are loving one another.

So how are we measuring up? Are we preoccupied with our careers? Are we placing value on the lives of others - even loving the irritating brother or sister-in-law? What works has God prepared for you? Are you taking some cookies or a meal to a shut-in? Are you volunteering with our Auxiliary family members? You are needed and there are many works that have been created for you to do. Spend time with the Lord and listen to His voice. Everyone will benefit and whoever does the Will of God lives forever!

(Adapted from the Gary Wilkerson World Challenge newsletter)

Rose Laning