

What is Your Aim? by John Piper
Solid Joys, desiringGod.org

Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. . . . And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 3:17)

When you get up in the morning and you face the day, what do you say to yourself about your hopes for the day? When you look from the beginning of the day to the end of the day, what do you want to happen because you have lived?

If you say, "I don't even think like that. I just get up and do what I've got to do," then you are cutting yourself off from a basic means of grace and a source of guidance and strength and fruitfulness and joy. It is crystal clear in the Bible, including these texts, that God means for us to aim consciously at something significant in our days.

God's revealed will for you is that when you get up in the morning, you don't drift aimlessly through the day

letting mere circumstances alone dictate what you do, but that you aim at something — that you focus on a certain kind of purpose. I'm talking about children here, and teenagers, and adults — single, married, widowed, moms, and every trade and every profession.

Aimlessness is akin to lifelessness. Dead leaves in the back yard may move around more than anything else — more than the dog, more than the children. The wind blows this way, they go this way. The wind blows that way, they go that way. They tumble, they bounce, they skip, they press against a fence, but they have no aim whatsoever. They are full of motion and empty of life.

God did not create humans in his image to be aimless, like lifeless leaves blown around in the backyard of life. He created us to be purposeful — to have a focus and an aim for all our days. What is yours today? What is yours for the new year? A good place to start is 1 Corinthians 10:31, "Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

Events

TODAY

College & Career Christmas
Party 7:30 PM @ the Byrd's
1/2 Small Groups 7:15 PM
1/5 Heather Griggs' Bridal
Shower 11 AM - 1 PM
1/6 College & Career Lunch
1 PM
1/12 Ladies Missionary Society

Give



Upcoming Events



Pastors

Gary Hendrix	Stephen Byrd
Charles Fortner	Robert Fisher
Stu Johnston	Bob Prentice
Michael Lopes	

Service Times

—Sunday School 9:30 am
—Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am
—Sunday Evening Worship 5:30 pm
—Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm
919-563-9249
www.grbc.net

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GRACE
REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

December 30, 2018

“I know
the plans I have for you,
plans for a **FUTURE**
and a **HOPE**”

JEREMIAH 29:11

Morning Worship

Call to Worship

Pastor Bob Prentice

Opening Hymn

He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

**(Refrain) He will hold me fast. He will hold me fast.
For my Savior loves me so. He will hold me fast.**

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

(Refrain)

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast;
'Til our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!

(Refrain 2x)

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Scripture Reading

John 15:18-16:15, page 902

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

#599 The Sands of Time

Preparatory

Nearer, Still Nearer

Nearer, still nearer, close to Thy heart,
draw me, my Savior – so precious Thou art!
Fold me, O fold me close to Thy breast.
Shelter me safe in that haven of rest; Shelter me safe in that haven of rest.

Nearer, still nearer, nothing I bring, naught as an offering to Jesus, my King –
Only my sinful, now contrite heart.
Grant me the cleansing Thy blood doth impart;
Grant me the cleansing Thy blood doth impart.

Nearer, still nearer, Lord, to be Thine! Sin, with its follies, I gladly resign,
All of its pleasures, pomp and its pride.
Give me but Jesus, my Lord, crucified; Give me but Jesus, my Lord, crucified.

Nearer, still nearer, while life shall last, till safe in glory my anchor is cast;
Thro' endless ages ever to be
Nearer, my Savior, still nearer to Thee; Nearer, my Savior, still nearer to Thee.
Amen

Text and Music: Lelia N. Morris

Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 1-2:18, page 398

Sermon

Pastor Michael Lopes

Evening Worship

Call to Worship

Pastor Stu Johnston

Opening Hymn

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus I find a place to stand,
and wonder at such mercy that calls me as I am.
For hands that should discard me hold wounds which tell me come.
Beneath the cross of Jesus my unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus, His family is my own.
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams; now, one through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor the ones that You have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus, see the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus, the path before the crown,
We follow in His footsteps where promised hope is found.
How great the joy before us to be His perfect bride.
Beneath the cross of Jesus, we will gladly live our lives.

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Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 1-2:18, page 398

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

#27 Great is Thy Faithfulness

Preparatory

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye
to Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.
All o'er those wide extended plains, shines one eternal day;
there God, the Son forever reigns, and scatters night away.

(Chorus with "echos")

I am bound, I am bound, I am bound for the Promised Land.

I am bound, I am bound, I am bound for the Promised Land.

No chilling winds or poisonous breath, can reach that healthful shore,
sickness, sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.

(Chorus with "echos")

When shall I reach that happy place, and be forever blessed?

When shall I see my Father's face, and in His bosom rest?

(Chorus with "echos") (repeat chorus)

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Sermon

Pastor Stephen Byrd