

Cheltenham
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MEANDERING WITH PURPOSE

Message Notes

Stephen Shapiro in his book *Goal-Free Living* says, "If you want to be happy – successful in the broadest sense – take your nifty five-year plan and your lifetime to-do list and throw them out the window. And while you're at it, get some air!" In his research of business leaders he found that the most fulfilled people were also the most spontaneous and the least goal oriented.

Goals are good but they have a downside – that is, we can be so focused on the future that we miss the present and we don't enjoy the journey. Goals also don't allow for the tough things that come our way as part of life in a fallen world.

As we embark on a New Year "In Him" I want to revisit two things to remember as we move into the future:

1. Enjoy the Present

This is what the Bible refers to as contentment...

Text: Philippians 4:10-13

It is possible to be so focused on achieving our goals, dreams and plans for the future that we miss all the wonderful things that are happening in the present...

2. Enjoy the Journey

Jesus had a general mission / vision / goal in life

Luke 19:10, *"The Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."*

Jesus prayed about specific decisions that needed to be made.

Luke 6:12-19

Jesus was not interruptible in the week leading up to the cross

Luke 9:51, *"As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem."*

Luke 13:31-33, *"At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, 'Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.' He replied, 'Go tell that fox, 'I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next*

day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!”

Isaiah 50:7, *“I have set my face like a stone, determined to do his will”*

The rest of the time Jesus *“meandered with purpose.”* Most of the great things that happened in Jesus’ life and ministry happened as He was interrupted along the way...

I encourage you to meander with purpose in 2016 as we go deeper “In Him.”
Enjoy the present and enjoy the journey!