

HOW TO ENJOY LIFE
LIFE GOALS, #3
Pastor Dennis Clanton
Woodland Church
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LIFE IS COMPLICATED.

“God made us plain and simple, but we have made ourselves very complicated.”
(Ecclesiastes 7:29, GN)

LIFE IS RELATIONSHIPS.

“Jesus replied, “‘You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Matthew 22:37–39, NLT)

1. Love with passion.

“Always keep me in your heart and wear this bracelet to remember me by. The passion of love bursting into flame is more powerful than death, stronger than the grave.” (Song of Solomon 8:6, CEV)

2. Love with conversation.

“One day when the crowds were being baptized, Jesus himself was baptized. As he was praying, the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit, in bodily form, descended on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, “You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy.” (Luke 3:21–22, NLT)

“Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” (Luke 11:1, NLT)

3. Love intelligently.

“In him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”
(Colossians 2:3, NLT)

In our quest for the fullness of the Spirit, we have sometimes forgotten that a Spirit-filled intelligence is one of the powerful weapons for pulling down satanic strongholds. -Richard Lovelace, *The Dynamics of Spiritual Life*

LIFE IS TIME.

“What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.” (James 4:14–15, NIV)

“Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Don’t act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.” (Ephesians 5:16–17, NLT)

1. Diligently plan proactively to be free to worship, work, and play.

“The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance ...” (Proverbs 21:5, ESV)

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.” (Proverbs 3:5–6, NLT)

2. Invest in your lifegoals.

“Without oxen a stable stays clean, but you need a strong ox for a large harvest.” (Proverbs 14:4, NLT)

3. Be motivated.

“When the clouds are full of water, it rains. When the wind blows down a tree, it lies where it falls. Don’t sit there watching the wind. Do your own work. Don’t stare at the clouds. Get on with your life. Just as you’ll never understand the mystery of life forming in a pregnant woman, So you’ll never understand the mystery at work in all that God does. Go to work in the morning and stick to it until evening without watching the clock. You never know from moment to moment how your work will turn out in the end.” (Ecclesiastes 11:3–6, Message)

4. Plan for the seasons of your life.

“For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.”
(Ecclesiastes 3:1, NLT)

5. Be flexible.

“I planned many times to visit you, but I was prevented until now.”
(Romans 1:13, NLT)

“In fact, my visit to you has been delayed so long because I have been preaching in these places.” (Romans 15:22, NLT)

LIFE IS ACCOUNTABLE.

“Everything you were taught can be put into a few words: Respect and obey God! This is what life is all about. God will judge everything we do, even what is done in secret, whether good or bad.” (Ecclesiastes 12:13–14, CEV)