

# Life Is Beautiful

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 06/26/2016



## I. Looking Beyond Life's Sorrow

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## II. The Gift Of Life

Ecclesiastes 5:18-20

v. 18

Labor & Reward

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v. 19

Prosperity & Leisure

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v. 20

Focused & Fulfilled

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## III. Celebrating The Beauty Of Life

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## Personal Reflection

*Set aside fifteen minutes this week to pray & respond to the following:*

*One does not have to look far or long to find things about which to be sad. Causes for sorrow & regret are easy to uncover in most people's lives. Everyone wishes at one time or another that they could take back carelessly spoken words, errant misdeeds & overlooked opportunities.*

*Life has its hard times—sometimes as a result of choices we make & other times due to factors beyond our control. This does not mean however that all of life is a tragedy. The reality is that life is a gift from the Creator that encompasses both joy & sorrow.*

*Life is beautiful because God has given you the freedom to participate in the variety, opportunity & discovery that He grants each person according to His plan & purpose. Your taking part in the appreciation & experience of life's beauty is optional. The joy that He gives is free, but it is not forced.*

*God has not promised an easy life, but He has promised to never leave or forsake His people. You can go through life downtrodden & dour or you can choose to rise above the sorrow through the uplifting power of the Holy Spirit.*

*Are you able to appreciate & share in life's beauty? Are you unconsciously surrendering your joy to the pressures of fear & hardship that sometimes arise? Most importantly, are you willing to ask God to restore & enhance your love for life?*

*Prayerfully thank God for the gift of life. Take the time to enumerate each of the beautiful aspects of your life. Ask Him to help you promote beauty in all of its forms in order that He may be glorified as the Creator & Sustainer of all.*