



*and enjoy yourself forever.*

—Thaddeus J. Williams

*Glory to man in the Highest! For Man is the master of things.*

—A.C. Swinburne, Humanist

## **1. Knowledge of the truth is confusing when you don't have a standard.**

*1But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. 2For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, 4treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. 6For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, 7always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth.*

—2 Timothy 3:1-7

## **2. Living your best life reflects what the Bible says.**

*13The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.*

—Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 (ESV)

*36“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” 37And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38This is the great and first commandment. 39And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”*

—Matthew 22:36-40 (ESV)

*But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,  
and all these things will be added to you.*

—Matthew 6:33

### **3. Living your best life brings us joy when we pass biblical knowledge on to others.**

Last week Susan mentioned that Barna Group and USA Today found that nearly 75% of Christian young people fall away from the faith and leave the church after high school. (Barna Group, Sept 19, 2023)

For some of these students. It's not a crisis of faith. It's the lack of acceptance, purpose in how to live, and lack of education by the church.

*1But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine.  
2Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness.  
3Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, 4and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, 5to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.  
6Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled.  
7Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, 8and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. 9Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, 10not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.*

—Titus 2:1-10 (ESV)

*11For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and*

*godly lives in the present age, 13waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.*

—Titus 2:11-14

#### **4. What if we stopped using the term living your best life and started living life the way God intended?**

*8For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

—Ephesians 2:8-10 (ESV)

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**📖 Next Week:** Romans 9

*Don't Follow Your Heart* by Thaddeus J. Williams

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