

It's Been a Pleasure

1. God wants you to experience a life full of pleasure.

A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment?

Ecclesiastes 2:24-25

The LORD God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground—trees that were beautiful and that produced delicious fruit. In the middle of the garden he placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 2:9 NLT

2. Pursuit of pleasure harms our soul.

Dear friends, I warn you as “temporary residents and foreigners” to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls.

1 Peter 2:11 NLT

The seeds that fell among the thorns represent those who hear the message, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life. And so they never grow into maturity.

Luke 8:14 NLT

- **Choose to see true value: beauty can be deadly.**

One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find out about her.

2 Samuel 11:2

- **Choose God more than what He created.**

Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure,

a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. 1 John 2:15-16 NLT

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4

- **Choose freedom rather than the chains of desire.**

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. Titus 3:3

Someone will say, "I am allowed to do anything." Yes; but not everything is good for you. I could say that I am allowed to do anything, but I am not going to let anything make me its slave. 1 Corinthians 6:12 GNT

- **Choose real life over escape.**

Heavy drinkers and others who live only for pleasure will lose all they have. Proverbs 21:17 CEV

3. Pursue God and your best life begins.

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17

You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalm 16:11 ESV