



October 2018

Sunday 7

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

2 Timothy 4v6-22

Jon Morrison

(Missions prayer meeting between the morning services – will be meeting upstairs on the balcony at 9.15am)

Monday 8

5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 9

8.30 am Hiking: Diagonal, Silvermine entrance fee/activity/Wild card required. Meet at Vallyland, bring a jacket, strong shoes, water & something for tea. Contact Carole 0812356809 with any questions.

10.00am Stay & Play

Fellowship Groups

2 Timothy 3v10 – 4v8

Wednesday 10

Fellowship Groups

2 Timothy 2v1-7

7.30pm – 9pm LIFE

Friday 12

7.00pm D A Carson Event

Saturday 13

8.30am Valley Inter-Church Prayer Meeting. Venue: St Kieran's Central Circle, Fish Hoek

Sunday 14

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

One Life: Don't waste it

Murray Anderson

4.30pm Confirmation Series

Monday 15

5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 16

10.00am Stay & Play

Fellowship Groups

One Life: Don't waste it

Wednesday 17

Fellowship Groups

One Life: Don't waste it

Friday 19

CoolClub 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 1-4

7UP 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 5-7

Hood 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Grade 8-12

Saturday 20

10.00am Craft Group meets in the Children's Centre

Sunday 21

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

One Life: Multiply it

Murray Anderson

4.30pm Confirmation Series

Monday 22

5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 23

8.30am Hiking: Kleinplaas Dam, Redhill. Meet at Vallyland, bring a jacket, strong shoes, water & something for tea. Contact Carole 0812356809 with any questions.

10.00am Stay & Play

Fellowship Groups

One Life: Multiply it

Wednesday 24

Fellowship Groups

One Life: Multiply it

Friday 26

CoolClub 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 1-4

7UP 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 5-7

Hood 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Grade 8-12

Sunday 28

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

One Life: Transform it

Booktable at morning services

4.30pm Confirmation Series

Monday 29

5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 30

10.00am Stay & Play

Fellowship Groups

One Life: Transform it

Wednesday 31

Fellowship Groups

One Life: Transform it

November 2018

Friday 2

CoolClub 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 1-4

7UP 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Grade 5-7

Hood 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Grade 8-12

Sunday 4

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

One Life: Sacrifice it

Murray Anderson

Monday 5

5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Wednesday 7

6.00PM

ST PETERS VISION DINNER

Sunday 7

8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm

2 Timothy 4v9-22

Murray Anderson

4.30pm Confirmation Series

St Peters Finance Update

	3 months to 31 Aug 2018	Month of Aug 2018
Income	1 087 566	332 389
Budget	1 069 617	356 539
Expenditure	1 268 323	429 366
Budget	1 091 236	363 745
Surplus / (Shortfall)	-180 757	-96 977
Budget	-21 619	-7 206
Included in Expenditure:		
Giving to REACH SA	90 953	28 022
Giving to Missions	70 655	20 445

Y.O.L.O

"You only live once..."

How should we respond to the truth that we only get one shot at life?

One approach is hedonism. You only live once, therefore maximise selfish pleasure and sensual experience. Frank Sinatra, who seemed to have given this approach a good go, famously said: *"You only live once, and the way I live, once is enough."*

OK. We all know that's not the answer the minister is after. God is anti-pleasure and "anti" any kind of experience that might amount to fun, right? Actually, when faced with a world of hedonistic sinners, God's response was not to just demand a path of ascetic self-denial.

So, what does God's Word say about the typical hedonistic "YOLO" lifestyle?

It's never really fulfilling

The author of Ecclesiastes (probably King Solomon) was someone who, as the saying goes, "sucked the marrow out of life": *"I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards. I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees. I bought male and female slaves and had other slaves who were born in my house...I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I acquired men and women singers, and a harem as well—the delights of the heart of man...I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure...."*

Yet after all this he concludes: *"when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun."* (Ecclesiastes 2:4–11 NIV)

It's just stupid to deny God's hold on your life.

Jesus told a parable about a greedy farmer who, after a very successful season in life, said to himself: *"You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."* (Luke 12:19). But that very night (v20), the God who gave him his life in the first place "demands it back", and calls him a "fool" for ignoring his mortality and accountability to Him.

In another parable (Matt 25:14-30) Jesus tells of a Master who, before departing on a long journey, entrusts "talents" (a form of currency) to three different servants. When he returns he finds that the first two servants have worked and invested and risked and, ultimately, grown his wealth. They are commended as "good and faithful" servants and rewarded with even more. But the third servant who did nothing to grow the Master's wealth is called "wicked and slothful" and condemned to hell!

Those passages paint a pretty bleak picture! If we get this wrong, we face the prospect of reaching the end of our one life in complete disillusionment (like the guy in Ecclesiastes). Worse than that, we face the prospect of reaching the next life faced with a God who condemns us as foolish and/or wicked! (like the guys in the parables).

What's the solution?

The first thing is to realise just how much our loving and gracious God has done to help people avoid making these very mistakes. He has *"set eternity in the hearts of people"* (Eccl 3:11) so that we all intrinsically know and feel that there is more to life than just the material.

He also raised his Son from the dead, giving him a glorious, eternal resurrection body so that we can know for sure that this world is **not** all there is. The Apostle Paul says: *"If the dead are not raised, 'Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.'" (1 Cor 15:32).* If it weren't for the resurrection of Jesus, the typical "YOLO" way of life would actually make perfect sense. But Jesus' resurrection proved there is more than just the one life on this side of the grave. He opened the way to eternal life for us all. We can know that, in Christ, the next million, billion, trillion years are secure. That puts a different perspective on how we spend the next thirty, forty, fifty.

The second thing is to take a closer look at those parables and realise that the best way to live life **now**, is in a living, active relationship with this loving and gracious God.

- The greedy farmer's fundamental mistake was that he was *"not rich toward God"* during his life (Luke 12:21).
- The "wicked" third servant had the kind of detached fear of his Master which paralysed him into a life of no risk and no effort: *"'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'* (Matt 25:24-25). He was more concerned about living a safe life than growing his Master's glory.

But our Master sent his one and only Son into this world so that selfish hedonists, like you and me, can be forgiven. In that context of love and security he calls on us to live lives for the growth of his glory. This will mean risk and sacrifice and stress and suffering...but, ultimately: great purpose, real fulfillment and eternal reward.

Over the coming six weeks in our "One Life" sermon series, we'll be exploring in more detail what it looks like to live this one life for the glory of God.

Murray Anderson



ONE LIFE
you only live once
 SUNDAY SERMON SERIES
 OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2018

ST PETERS CHURCH

- 14 October
ONE LIFE: DON'T WASTE IT
- 21 October
ONE LIFE: MULTIPLY IT
- 28 October
ONE LIFE: TRANSFORM IT
- 4 November
ONE LIFE: SACRIFICE IT
- 11 November
ONE LIFE: SHARE IT
- 18 November
ONE LIFE: ENJOY IT