

Making meaning of the turmoil in our lives

Creating God Space

Time Saving Tools

- Which of the following do you have and use:
 - Cell Phone
 - Blackberry or similar
 - More than 1 Computer
 - PDA
 - More than 1 e-mail account
 - TIVO or DVR
 - Day Runner or similar
- Use WiFi access @ Starbucks or similar
- Use Text Messaging
- Use Instant Messaging
- Have MySpace, FaceBook or similar page
- Regularly Blog



How busy is your life?

- Can you identify with the woman in this picture?
- Does our society create pressures on us that make our lives busy?
- Do you feel that your life is so busy that you sense it is passing you by?



Exploring Scripture

- Do you involve God in your plans?

*"Doom, rebel children!"
God's decree. "You make plans, but not mine. You make deals not in my Spirit. You pile sin on sin, one sin on top of another."*

Isaiah 30:1 MSG

- What does this scripture say about how you should plan your life?



SHELLS

A NOOMA Video



Shells

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding several seashells of various colors and shapes. The hand is positioned in the foreground, with the shells resting on the palm. The background is a vast, clear blue ocean under a bright sky. The image has rounded corners and a slight reflection at the bottom.

What is the primary message of this video?

Can you identify with what is being said?

Jesus Mission

While it was still night, way before dawn, he got up and went out to a secluded spot and prayed. Simon and those with him went looking for him. They found him and said, "Everybody's looking for you." Jesus said, "Let's go to the rest of the villages so I can preach there also. This is why I've come."

Mark 1:35-38

The people of the village wanted Jesus to stay. How could he just up and walk away when he was doing so much good?

Have you ever walked away from something 'good'? Why did you do this?

Jesus Mission

When it came close to the time for his Ascension, he gathered up his courage and steeled himself for the journey to Jerusalem.

Luke 9:51

He went on teaching from town to village, village to town, but keeping on a steady course toward Jerusalem.

Luke 13:22

It happened that as he made his way toward Jerusalem, he crossed over the border between Samaria and Galilee.

Luke 17:11

Then Jesus took the Twelve off to the side and said, "Listen carefully. We're on our way up to Jerusalem. Everything written in the Prophets about the Son of Man will take place.

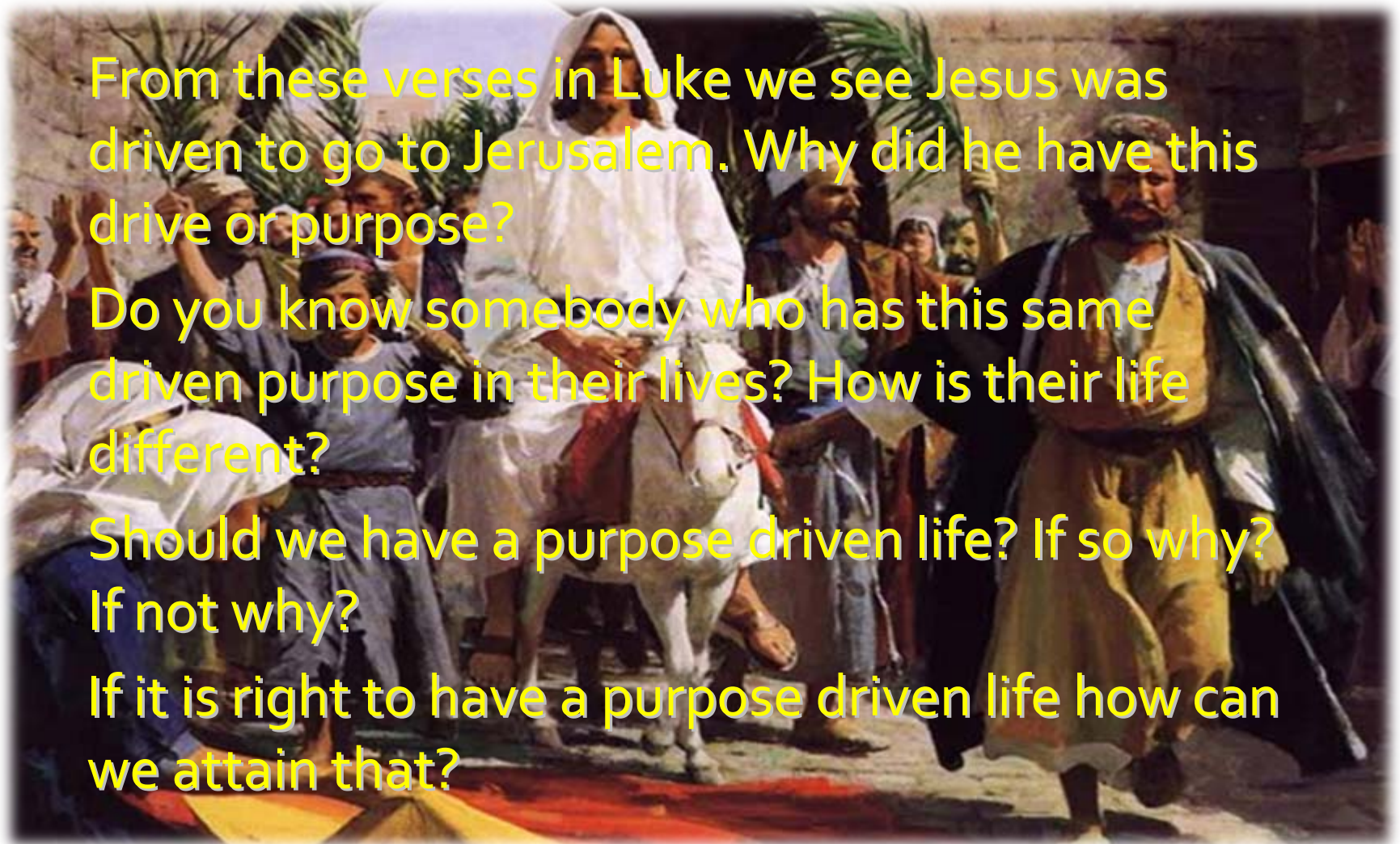
Luke 18:31

After saying these things, Jesus headed straight up to Jerusalem.

Luke 19:28

Jerusalem: Model of the Ancient City

Jesus Mission



From these verses in Luke we see Jesus was driven to go to Jerusalem. Why did he have this drive or purpose?

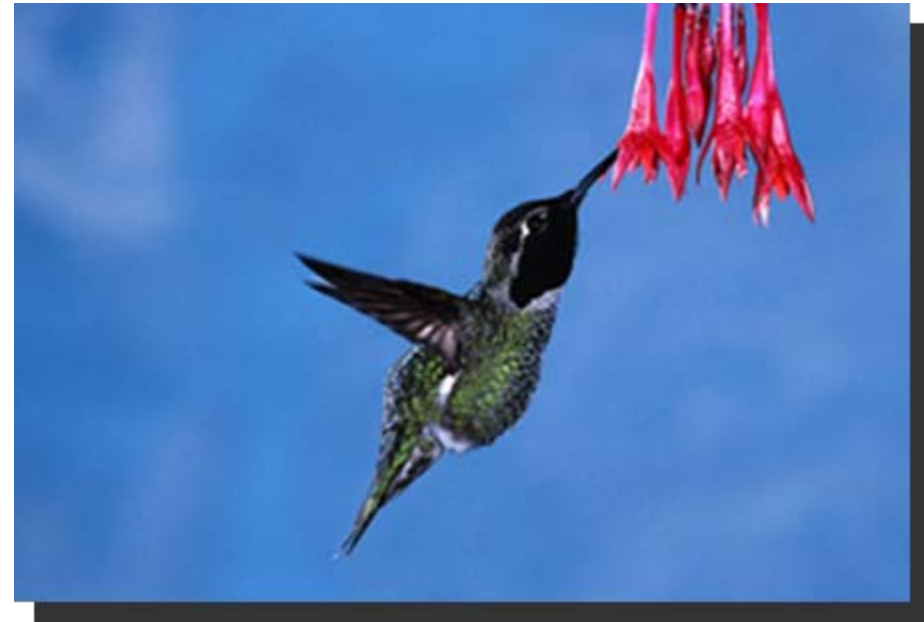
Do you know somebody who has this same driven purpose in their lives? How is their life different?

Should we have a purpose driven life? If so why? If not why?

If it is right to have a purpose driven life how can we attain that?

What is your purpose or mission?

- What is the mission of this Humming Bird? Is it purpose driven?
- What is the “one thing” or purpose that should be driving your life?
- Do we let others distract us from our mission? If so how can we avoid letting others dictate what we do?



Achieving your life's purpose

- Do you feel there are not enough hours in the day to do everything? Is this good or bad and what causes it?
- How can you change this attitude?
- Do your choices drive you toward the “one thing” in your life?



Wise Choices

So watch your step. Use your head. Make the most of every chance you get. These are desperate times!

Don't live carelessly, unthinkingly. Make sure you understand what the Master wants.

Ephesians 5:15-17

What is the instruction Paul is giving us in these verses?

Life's Choices

- Is it possible to be so busy you don't have time for yourself? Why is this bad?
- If your life is so busy doing so many things is it possible others in your life suffer? Why is this bad?
- If your life is so busy doing "God things" is it bad that you don't have time to be alone with God? Why?



Letting Go

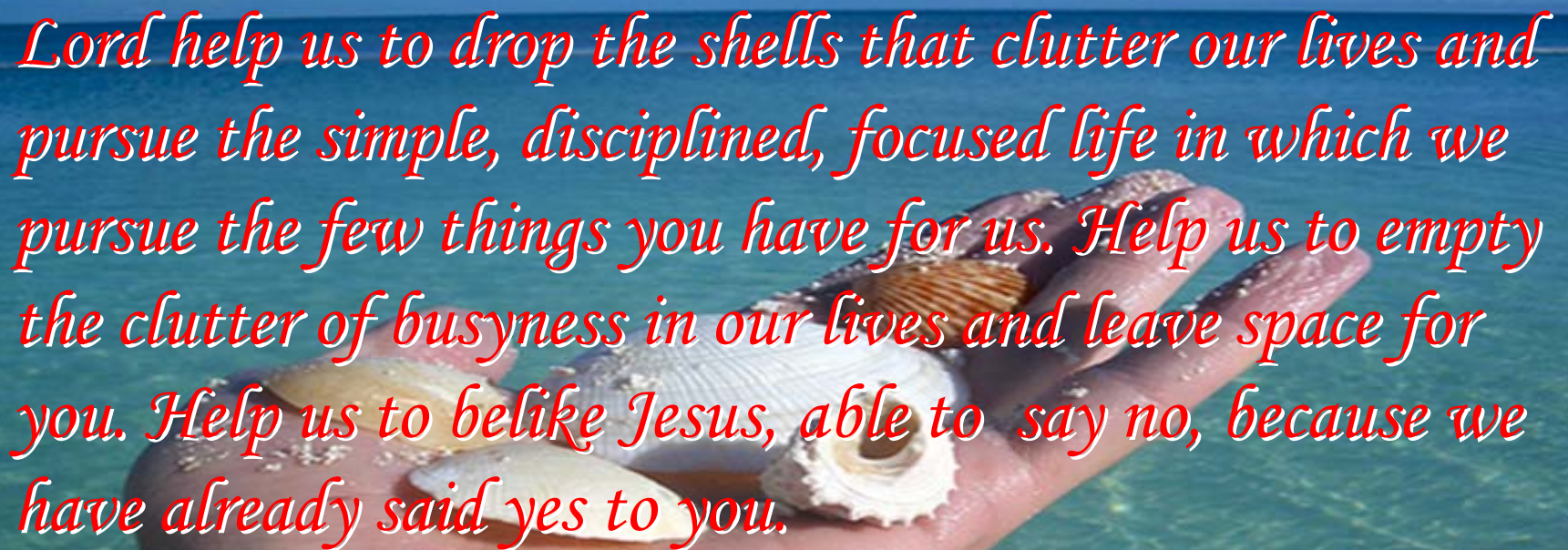
A photograph of a brown starfish resting on a sandy beach. In the background, waves are crashing onto the shore, creating white foam. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

Can you identify some shells you are grabbing hold of that stop you taking hold of your starfish?

What would it take to get you to drop the shells?

Creating God Space

Letting go of our things and letting God fill the space

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding several seashells of various colors and sizes. The background is a clear blue ocean with a horizon line. The text is overlaid on the image in a red, cursive font.

Lord help us to drop the shells that clutter our lives and pursue the simple, disciplined, focused life in which we pursue the few things you have for us. Help us to empty the clutter of busyness in our lives and leave space for you. Help us to believe Jesus, able to say no, because we have already said yes to you.

Amen