

What's it all about - Alfie?

The year was 1966. The title song of a major movie became more famous than the movie itself. ***What's it all about, Alfie***, the hit song written by Burt Bacharach and Hal David, made the top 40 list. The movie was about a British man who had dubious morals. It seems as though the title character, Alfie, had not *really* figured out what life was really all about.

Who knew in 1966 that this theme would describe most of America? I would claim that most Americans are struggling to figure out what life is really all about. Surveys of older people reveal that many are disillusioned and ill prepared for their own future. Surveys of middle age and younger adults often reveal that many consider success in life to be mostly about large homes, high incomes and large bank balances.

The apostle Paul had far different ideas. In II Corinthians 5 Paul speaks of his own goal. After reminding people that our earthly experiences are quite temporary, he states his own, personal goal in his own earthly life in verse 9, ***"Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him"*** (NASB).

That is the bottom line. "What's it all about?" It's about pleasing God in this life, so we can be with Him in the next! Paul continues in the next verse, ***"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."***

Did you catch it? Life here on earth is about preparing for life in eternity – not merely for Paul but for all of us. In I Corinthians 11:1, Paul issues a vital call, not out of personal arrogance, but out of personal love for humanity. ***"Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ."***

What's it all about? Imitating Jesus! Walking in His steps (I Peter 2:21). What a concept: If you walk in someone's footsteps you get to the same place they went! It's early in 2016. Decide today live for Jesus – that's what it's all about!

God loves you, and I do too!

Ray Wallace