

One thing you can't do in Heaven
by Jason Butte

What is the ultimate purpose of Christians on the earth? What is the primary activity of our life? What effort in the life of a Christian on earth brings the most glory to God? Why are we still here? Why did God not take us home the moment we believed upon Jesus? What is our purpose?... There are many seemingly good answers to these questions.

For example, someone might say our primary purpose is to worship God. It is certainly true that we should and do worship God; however, if we are honest, we have to admit that we fail greatly at that. How often does our mind wonder as we sing hymns and pray to God? If our primary purpose was to worship God, it would probably be better for God to take us on to Heaven. I assure you that our worship of God in Heaven will be much more pure than it is upon the earth.

Another person might say that our primary purpose is to fellowship with other believers. We do fellowship with other believers on earth. But, if we are honest, we don't do that very well either do we? How often is fellowship damaged because of envy and pride that rises up from our flesh? I am certain that our fellowship will be much better in Heaven. Surely God did not leave us on earth merely to have fellowship of this type on the earth...

Someone else might say that our primary purpose on earth is to live a holy life. That sounds good. We should seek after holiness, right? But, how often do we fail? This would be great if we did not have to battle with the world, the flesh, and the Devil; however, we do have a battle. And, we often fail don't we? Once again, if this was our primary purpose, it would probably be better for God to take us on to Heaven.

BUT, there is at least one thing that we can do on earth that we can't do in Heaven... Did you know that this one thing is also the preeminent thing the risen Lord has instructed us to do? Do you know what it is? It is to "make disciples" (Matt 28:19-20). It is to serve as Christ's ambassadors in the endeavor of calling others to a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ through the proclamation of His glorious Gospel. That is our purpose. Did you know that this purpose is closely related with the primary reason why Jesus came and gave His life for us? The Bible says Jesus came to "seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Is your life lined up with God's priorities and purposes? Rearrange your priorities, shake up your life, do what you must do – but get serious about the joyous task of making true disciples of Christ while there is still time.