

Title: What Is God Writing About You? Living a Life Worth Recording

Sermon Summary: Drawing from 2 Chronicles 19, the pastor examines the life of King Jehoshaphat and uses it as a mirror to challenge believers to evaluate the spiritual depth and impact of their own lives. The central question posed is: if God were writing a book about your life, what would he have to say? The sermon calls Christians out of comfortable, predictable, self-centered living and into a life marked by the fear of the Lord, genuine love for God, and active pursuit of drawing others closer to him. Using Jehoshaphat's example of going out among the people to turn their hearts back to God, the pastor urges the congregation to move beyond passive church attendance and religious routine into a life of courageous, Spirit-led obedience. The sermon concludes with a call to surrender the pen of one's life to God and allow him to write new chapters of faithful, kingdom-focused living.

Key Points:

- God is observing our lives much like a father in the stands watching his children, not primarily to catch us in failure but hoping to see us succeed and grow in him
- Jehoshaphat's defining characteristic was that he set his heart on seeking God, and this is what God most desires to see in each believer
- The fear of the Lord is not paralyzing dread but the deepest form of reverence and respect, and it is the foundation of wise and faithful living
- Christians are called not merely to avoid sin but to actively turn the hearts of others back to God, just as Jehoshaphat went out among the people for that very purpose
- American Christianity has drifted toward comfort, predictability, and self-focus rather than Spirit-led sacrifice and kingdom purpose
- New believers often influence more people toward Christ in their first six months of faith than in all the years that follow, suggesting that spiritual passion tends to plateau without intentional renewal
- Obedience to God's prompting does not always require full explanation or a detailed plan, only a willing heart ready to act

- The question is not just whether we are saved but whether we are living in a way that reflects genuine love for God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength
- Serving God should flow from desire and love rather than obligation or social expectation

Scripture Reference:

- 2 Chronicles 19, which recounts Jehoshaphat's return to Jerusalem, his rebuke by the seer Jehu, and his appointment of judges throughout Judah with instructions to judge faithfully in the fear of the Lord
- 1 Corinthians, referenced in connection with God taking what the world considers nothing and making it into something of eternal significance
- Acts 8, cited in relation to Philip's obedience and his encounter with the Ethiopian eunuch on the road to Gaza
- The Great Commandment, referenced in the closing prayer as the call to love God with all heart, soul, mind, and strength

Stories:

- Jehoshaphat going out among the people from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim to turn their hearts back to God and appointing judges with instructions to serve wholeheartedly in the fear of the Lord, illustrating kingdom-minded leadership that serves rather than rules
- Philip in Acts 8 leaving a revival in Samaria at the Spirit's prompting to travel a deserted road toward Gaza, where he encountered an Ethiopian eunuch, led him to faith in Christ, and baptized him, with the suggestion that this act of obedience may have sparked the early spread of the gospel throughout Africa
- Abraham and Sarah, briefly mentioned as examples of God choosing those with nothing to offer in human terms in order to demonstrate that his purposes are accomplished by his power alone
- The image of a father watching his child play on a field, used by the pastor to describe how God watches over believers, not to penalize them but to cheer them on toward faithfulness and growth