**Life**

In his hand is the life of every living thing

**and the breath of every human being.**

***(Job 12:10)***

**Life isn’t about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself. (George Bernard Shaw)**

**Life is an addiction which we must all somehow learn eventually to overcome. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**Before you decide about your aim in life, check your ammunition. (Bits & Pieces)**

**Nothing is more destined to create deep-seated anxieties in people than the false assumption that life should be free from anxieties. *(Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen)***

**Life is the art of drawing sufficient conclusions from insufficient premises. *(Samuel Butler)***

**Life is the art of drawing without an eraser. *(John W. Gardner, former government official)***

**Everything happening, great and small, is a parable whereby God speaks to us, and the art of life is to get the message.*(Malcolm Muggeridge, in Guideposts magazine)***

**Every important life story has two aspects: the things a man has energy enough to do, and the things a man has stability enough to stand. (Harry Emerson Fosdick)**

**The nine aspects of life: The adventure of life is to learn. The purpose of life is to grow. The nature of life is to change. The challenge of life is to overcome. The essence of life is to care. The opportunity of life is to serve. The secret of life is to share. The spice of life is to dare. The joy of life is to befriend. The beauty of life is to give. (William Arthur Ward)**

**Life is the biggest bargain. We get it for nothing. (Yiddish proverb)**

**Axel: “Ah, life! It just doesn’t get any better than this!” Rolf: “Is that a good thing, or a bad thing?” (J. C. Duffy, in The Fusco Brothers comic strip)**

**The obstinate insisting that tweetledum is not tweetledee is the bone and marrow of life. (William James)**

**I think of life as a good book. The further you get into it, the more it begins to make sense. *(Rabbi Harold Kushner)***

**When things are not going well, it is tempting to blame others or rush out and change something -- anything -- to make the inner pain go away. But radical, unplanned moves are neither wise nor necessary. Rather, set priorities and create a life around them. As a way to get started, list three to five answers to these questions: When filled, what physical needs make you happy, and why? What emotional needs are important to you and why? What mental needs must be filled to make you content? What other needs are important to you? What does success -- both personal and professional -- mean to you? If you survived a disaster such as an earthquake, a flood or a fire, what possession would you miss and why? From these seeds will come the information you will draw upon as you begin to build a life that is worth living.*(Odette Pollar, in Take Back Your Life)***

**You can’t do much about the length of your life, but you can do a lot about its depth and width. *(The Best of BITS & PIECES, p. 116)***

**Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards. *(Soren Kierkegaard)***

**You can’t speed life up or slow it down, but you can change its shape and color. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**Life isn’t easy -- and little children have to face more years of it than anyone else. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**Life is a continual process of getting used to things we never expected.*(Bits & Pieces)***

**Sign on a subway wall: “Life is one contradiction after another.” Underneath is written: “No it's not.” (Parts Pups)**

**It is cruelly arbitrary to put all the play and learning into childhood, all the work into middle age, and all the regrets into old age. (Margaret Mead)**

**Cynic’s guide to life: Follow your dream . . . unless it's the one where you're at work in your underwear during a fire drill. Always take time to stop and smell the roses and sooner or later, you'll inhale a bee. Do not walk behind me, I may not lead. Do not walk ahead of me, I may not follow. Do not walk beside me, either. Just leave me alone. If you don't like my driving, don't call anyone. Just take another road. That's why they make so many of them. Love is like a roller coaster: When it's good you don't want to get off, and when it isn't, you can't wait to throw up. (Rocky Mountain News)**

**It is impossible to understand one without the other. A person cannot enjoy Life until he has made peace with what the world calls Death. To understand Life in its fullest sense is to understand that there is no death, that death is but the opening of a door into a further experience of Life. (Jack E. Addington)**

**Along our path of life we get a series of detours, and we all get frustrated and impatient when we feel we have to leave the path we've chosen! But what if the real path of life is really made up of all these detours, and instead of learning the real lessons of life, we miss them because we were too busy being frustrated and impatient. *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**Most do not fully see this truth that life is difficult. Instead they moan more or less incessantly, noisily or subtly, about the enormity of their problems, their burdens, and their difficulties as if life were generally easy, as if life should be easy. *((Scott Peck)***

**Three of the most difficult things to do in life are to keep a secret, forget an injury, and make good use of leisure time. (Bits & Pieces)**

**Life isn't a dress rehearsal. (Bits & Pieces)**

**Life becomes much easier, once you make the ridiculous assumption that everything will ultimately be O.K. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**To be what we are, and to become what we are capable of becoming, is the only end of life. (Baruch Spinoza)**

**If life's all there is, it's enough -- If not, I'll be interested to see what comes next. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**This life may be all there is -- so before it's over, I hope I've had enough. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**The most exhausting thing in life is being insecure. (Anne Morrow Lindbergh, American writer)**

**I want to experience every aspect of life -- but I want them all to be pleasant. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**All life is an experiment. The more experiments you make the better. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)**

**In life, as in a football game, the principle to follow is: hit the line hard. (Theodore Roosevelt)**

**Life is a foreign language. All men mispronounce it. (Christopher Morley, novelist)**

**Life is full of misery, loneliness, and suffering – and it’s all over much too soon. (Woody Allen)**

**Life is like a game of cards. The hand that is dealt you represents determinism; the way you play it is free will. *(Jawaharlal Nehru, Indian statesman)***

**The game of life is not so much in holding a good hand as playing a poor hand well. (H. T. Leslie)**

**The goal of life is living in agreement with nature. *(Zeno, 3rd century Greek philosopher)***

**What keeps people going on in life? In some cases it's courage; in others, just curiosity.  (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**Life must be a good thing -- why else would people be so eager to pass it on? (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**Life is like a grindstone -- whether it grinds you down or polishes you up depends on what you're made of. (Bits & Pieces)**

**Half of life is if. (Bits & Pieces)**

**Half our life is spent trying to find something to do with the time we have rushed through life trying to save. (Will Rogers)**

**I thought I had a handle on life, but then it fell off. (Barbara Johnson)**

Too often man handles life as he does the bad weather. He whiles away the time as he waits for it to stop. *(Alfred Polgar, Austrian journalist)*

**Life is what happens to us when we are busy making other plans.*(John Lennon)***

**Life is hard. After all, it kills you. *(Katharine Hepburn)***

**The hardest thing in life to learn is which bridge to cross and which to burn. (David Russell)**

**Life has a way of overgrowing its achievements as well as its ruins. (Edith Wharton, American author)**

**Life has its own hidden forces which you can only discover by living. (Soren Kierkegaard)**

**How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong, because someday in your life you will have been all of these. (George Washington Carver)**

**A man who considers that his life is of very wonderful importance is awfully close to a padded cell. (Clarence Darrow)**

**The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why. (Mark Twain)**

**There are three ingredients in the good life: learning, earning, and yearning. (Christopher Morley)**

**Life isn’t fair. It’s just fairer than death, that’s all. (William Goldman)**

**We should all regret doing wrong and delight in doing right -- but life isn’t that simple. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**The ladder of life is full of splinters, but they always prick the hardest when we’re sliding down. (William L. Brownell)**

**Life is one long process of getting tired. (Samuel Butler)**

**Life loves to be taken by the lapel and told: “I’m with you kid. Let’s go.” (Maya Angelou)**

**We are not here to make a living; we are here to make a life. (W. E. Russell)**

**May you live all the days of your life. (Jonathan Swift)**

**The meaning of life is finding your gift; the purpose of life is giving it away. (Joy J. Golliver)**

**The very meaninglessness of life forces man to make his own meaning. (Stanley Kubrick)**

**To fulfill a dream, to be allowed to sweat over lonely labor, to be given a chance to create, is the meat and potatoes of life. The money is the gravy. (Bette Davis, in The Lonely Life)**

**Just because my life is a mess doesn’t necessarily mean I can’t help you with yours. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**Make your life a mission – not an intermission. (Arnold Glasgow)**

**Wife to husband with face buried in newspaper: “Has it ever occurred to you that there might be more to life that just what’s going on in the world?” (Joe Mirachi, in Saturday Review)**

**Even in exciting times, most of life, for most people, is not very romantic. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**Life is never so bad at its worst that it is impossible to live; it is never so good at its best that it is easy to live. (Gabriel Heatter, American radio commentator)**

**Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and make the best of it, without knowing what is going to happen next. Delicious ambiguity. (Gilda Radner)**

**Life’s like a novel with the end ripped out. (Rascal Flatts, in “Stand”)**

For a long time it seemed to me that life was about to begin – real life -- but there was always some obstacle in the way, something to be gotten through first, some unfinished business, time still to be served, a debt to be paid. At last it dawned on me that these obstacles were my life. (Alfred D’Souza)

Life is like an onion – you peel off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep. (Carl Sandburg)

**Life is 10 percent what you make it, and 90 percent how you take it. (Irving Berlin)**

**The purpose of life is to serve mankind. (Albert Einstein)**

**Life has taught me that it is not for our faults that we are disliked and even hated, but for our qualities.*(Bernard Berenson, Lithuanian-American art critic and author)***

**There are a thousand thousand reasons to live this life, every one of them sufficient. *(Marilynne Robinson, novelist)***

**The secret of life is learning to make a fool of yourself gracefully.  (James Redfield's grandfather)**

**The whole secret of life is to be interested in one thing profoundly and in a thousand things well. (Horace Walpole, author)**

**Life is a series of experiments so don’t expect success every time. (Rose L. Korotkin)**

**Life is like a sewer … what you get out of it depends on what you put into it. (Tom Lehrer)**

**Life is too short, and the time we waste in yawning never can be regained. (Stendahl)**

**Life is too short to have anything but delusional notions about yourself. (Gene Simmons, rock star)**

**Life is pretty simple: You do some stuff. Most fails. Some works. You do more of what works. If it works big, others quickly copy it. Then you do something else. The trick is in the doing something else.*(Tom Peters, in Chicago Tribune)***

**Life is something to do when you can’t get to sleep. (Fran Lebowitz)**

**You could spend your whole life trying to preserve it, but never really doing anything with it. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**Life has taught me that it is not for our faults that we are disliked and even hated, but for our qualities. (Bernard Berenson, Lithuanian-American art critic and author)**

**Life has taught me to think, but thinking has not taught me how to live. (Alexander Herzen, Russian author)**

**Life is like a ten-speed bike. Most of us have gears we never use. (Charles M. Schulz)**

**Is not life in itself a thing of goodness, irrespective of whether the course it takes for us can be called a “happy” one? (Thomas Mann, author)**

**The tragedy of life is not that the beautiful things die young; it is that they grow old and mean. (Raymond Chandler)**

**The great tragedy of life is not that people set their sights too high and fail to achieve their goals but they set their sights too low and do. (Michelangelo)**

**Life is a train of moods like a string of beads; and as we pass through them they prove to be many colored lenses, which paint the world their own hue, and each shows us only what lies in its own focus. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)**

**The trouble with life isn’t that there is no answer, it’s that there are so many answers. (Ruth Benedict, anthropologist)**

**Life is something like a trumpet. If you don’t put anything in, you won’t get anything out. (W. C. Handy, composer)**

**Life is trying things to see if they work. (Ray Bradbury)**

**Life may be trying to tell me something, but I’m afraid it’s not a friendly message. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**The greatest use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Life has a value only when it has something valuable as its object. *(Hegel)***

**The value of life does not depend upon the place we occupy. It depends upon the way we occupy that place. *(St. Therese of Lisieux)***

**Life is what you make it: If you snooze, you lose; and if you snore, you lose more. *(Phyllis George)***

**If we have our own “why” of life, we can bear almost any “how.” *(Friedrich Nietzsche)***

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