



ANOTHER MONDAY MORNING

Know why you are here.

The routines of our lives can sometimes be discouraging—another day working at the factory, driving carpool, doing homework, sweeping floors, paying bills. Get up tomorrow morning and do it all again. We dig ruts so deep they sometimes feel like graves. How do we break free of the monotony and drudgery?

- Recognize God's hand at work in your life. Acknowledge His design in your gifts and personality, your circumstances and choices. Because He loves you with an everlasting love (Jeremiah 31:3), you can trust His plan for you (Jeremiah 29:11).
- Reflect on your path, your history. Do a little George-Bailey thinking about your wonderful life and what a difference you have made in the lives of others around you. How has God already been at work in your life?
- Include God's Word in your routines. He has more to say to you; He has more work for you to do. No matter your age, He isn't finished with you. Tune in to His wavelength by consistently reading His Word.
- Write down your personal mission statement. Corporations do this; you can too. Express your purpose for living in one sentence. Though difficult, this will require you to focus on your passions and opportunities and see beyond the repetitive tasks of daily life.
- Fast forward to your obituary. What will people say about you when your life is over? Work backward from that to make those tributes what you want them to be. If you want people to one day say that you were joyful and generous, you can't be grumpy and stingy right now.
- Invest in what lasts for eternity. The factory line, the homework, and the carpool will not last for eternity, but the people you spend time with at the factory, in the classroom, in the mini-van, and at the kitchen table will.