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When Father Gerry asked me to prepare and share a video reflection for Lent, my immediate thoughts focused on fear, and “I need a haircut!” Evidently, as much as I don’t want to admit it, I’m still right in the middle of my “self-centered” life.

I retired 4 years ago and the sheer joy and relief of not having to deal with the stress and pressures of work, as well as, setting my own schedule, to do what I wanted, when I wanted, sustained me for a long time. I was so thankful to The Lord for where I was in my life, and the love he has for me, that I drew closer to Him. I attended Mass frequently; I completed the ChristLife Series. But lately, and I’m not sure why, I’ve been drifting back to self-centeredness instead of God-centeredness.

This Lent, when Father Gerry announced the Small Group Study of Rich Warren’s book, *What on Earth Am I Here For?*, it struck a nerve. I actually got excited about it, and I know The Lord had something to do with that!

In the book, we read one day at a time. On Day 7: entitled The Reason for Everything, Pastor Warren writes, “Living the rest of your life for the glory of God (and that is the reason for everything) will require a change in your priorities, your schedule, your relationships, and everything else. It will sometimes mean choosing a difficult path instead of an easy one. Even Jesus struggled with this.”

“Jesus stood at a fork in the road. Would He fulfill His purpose and bring glory to God, or would he shrink back and live a comfortable, self-centered life? We face the same choice. Will we live for our own goals, comfort, and pleasure, or will we live the rest of our life for God’s glory, knowing that He has promised eternal life?”

“It’s time to settle this issue. Who am I going to live for – myself or God? I may hesitate, wondering whether I will have strength to live for God. Don’t worry. God will give us what we need if we will just make the choice to live for Him”.

Wow, there it is! I know there’s a lot more in the book, but that’s the essence.

In the booklet that we use at Stations of the Cross, Station Fourteen ends with, “But I am nothing, Lord. Help me!” I’m counting on it. I’m ready!