

PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE

*A Manifesto on
The Meaning of Life*



CHRISTIAN EMBASSY

VIII. A PURPOSEFUL LIFE

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“What on earth am I here for?” Great question! And it deserves a thoughtful response. Dr. Rick Warren, author of *The Purpose Driven Life*, spoke about “Living Purposefully in Uncertain Times” at the International Prayer Breakfast on the 2005 Opening Day of the General Assembly to an audience that included heads of state, foreign ministers, ambassadors and diplomats from over 60 countries.

The purpose of the United Nations, according to the Charter, is “to maintain international peace and security..., to develop friendly relations among nations..., and to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems.” Is it really possible?

Five men went to Ecuador with a clear sense of their purpose: to tell the fierce Waodani tribe about the love of God. The only problem was that no one had ever made contact with this remote tribe and returned alive. The Waodani grew up with this truth: “Spear and live or be speared and die.”

In 1956, these five missionaries made face to face contact with the Waodani. They were murdered, speared and hacked to death by these fierce warriors. These five courageous men had guns but had decided in advance not to use them against the Waodani. Why? Because “they’re not ready for heaven and we are.”

Two years later, the tribal homicide rate dropped more than 90 percent. What made the difference? In the words of Mincaye, one of the killers, “We acted badly, badly until they brought us God’s carvings. Now we walk his trail.”

Their story is told in the new movie, *End of the Spear*. It is a true story “of how faith can transform tragedy into triumph, how courage can overcome insurmountable obstacles, and how love can create a family with two opposite cultures.”

Thoughts to consider:

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Mt. 22:37-39)

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.” (Mt. 5:43)

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Rom. 5:8)

Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. (John 15:13)

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep in order to gain that which he cannot lose.”

“When it comes time to die, make sure all you have to do is die.” (Jim Elliot, murdered missionary)

Steve Saint, son of the pilot-missionary who was killed, put it this way:

They killed my dad	They adopted me.
They threw his body in the river	They baptized me there.
The world called them Aucas	I call them Waodani, “the people.”

The difference? God’s grace and the power of His Word.”

*“Only one life, ‘t will soon be past.
Only what’s done for Christ will last.”*