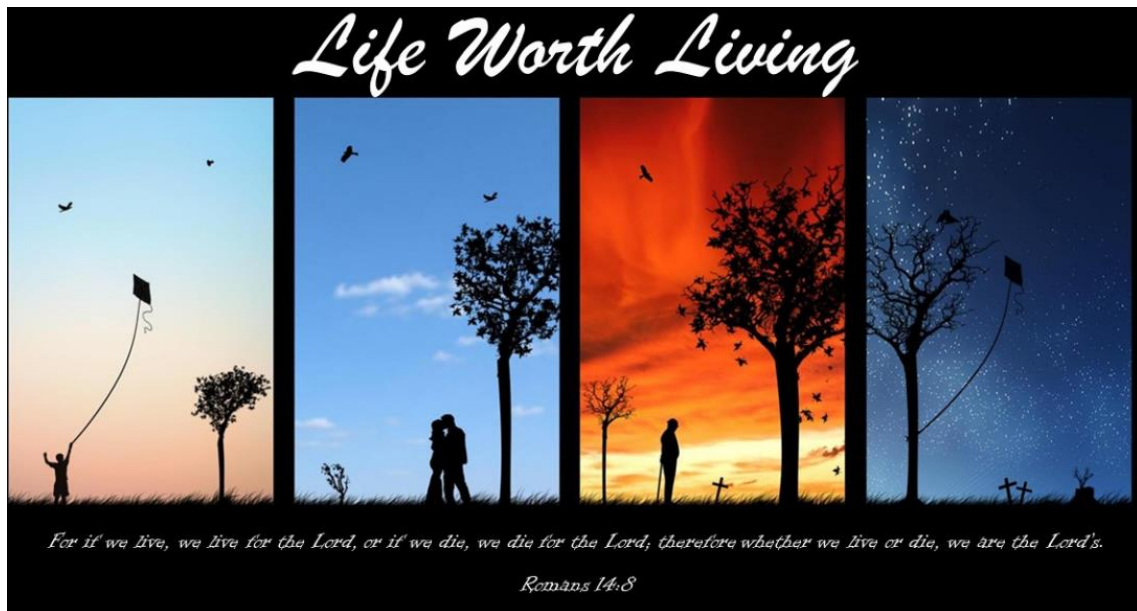


## September 10 Adult Spiritual Growth Class Synopsis

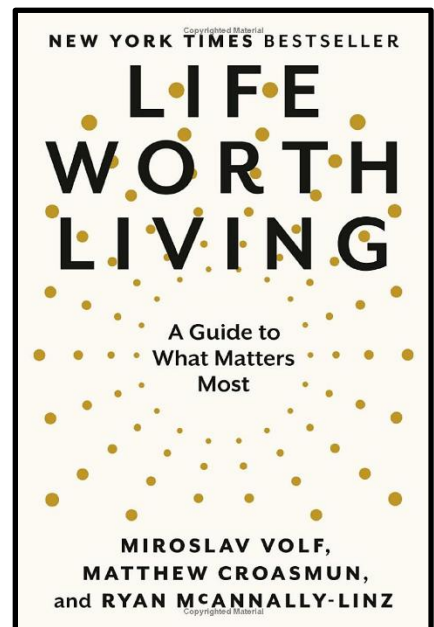
### Life Worth Living Study - Overview



We know that the seasons of life bring deep enrichment in relationships, experiences, and vocations as God ordains. As Christians we are gifted with God's saving grace through faith in Christ, who makes a life worth living even if our seasons are few. As the Apostle Paul writes in Romans 14:8: *'For if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.'* We know that we belong to the God of renewal, restoration, and resurrection. He is always making all things new.

Our study includes three resources: 1) the book entitled Life Worth Living, authored by three Yale divinity theologians, Miroslav Volf, Matthew Croasmun, and Ryan McAnnally-Linz; 2) the 2023 Offterdinger-Williamson Preaching Series, and 3) Scripture that speaks to "Life" with particular focus on questions that Jesus asked through His life and ministry.

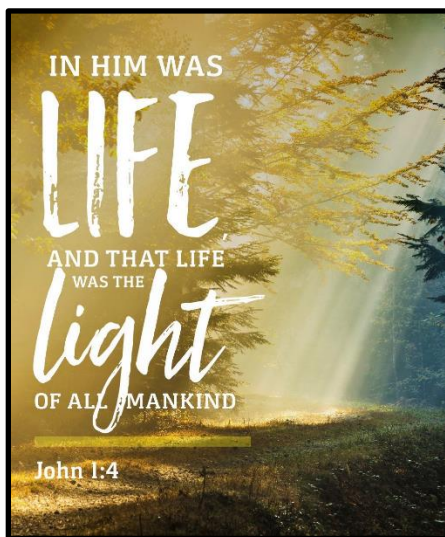
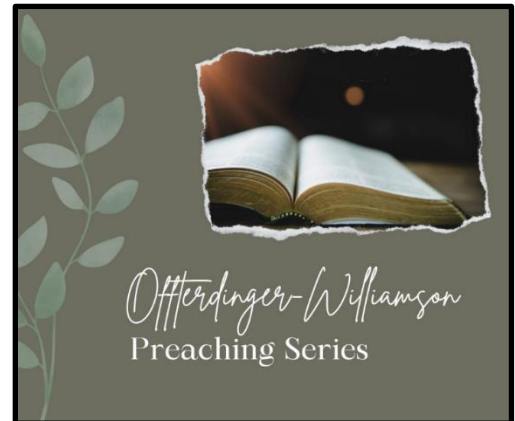
The book is named after the authors highly sought after undergraduate course that charts out the "Question" that may be framed a number of ways, i.e., "What is a good life?", "What matters most?", "What kind of life is worthy of our humanity?", "What is true life?", "What is the shape of a flourishing life?". Elements of such life include questions of truth, worth, value, purpose, meaning, justice, beauty, good and evil, final aims and ends. The book provides jumping off points with compelling questions, road maps, and habits of reflection for understanding where our lives hold meaning and where things need to change with adaptation and application to life for us as followers of Christ.



As Christians, we know the answer to the "Question", as given in *John 1:4: 'In Him was Life and that Life was the Light of all mankind.'* However, we may not always live the "Answer" with a conviction and certainty as defined in *Hebrews 11:1: 'Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about*

*what we do not see.* As Jesus prayed, we live in the world but are to be not of the world. We will use the study and the resource to help us to reflect deliberately on and honestly assess this life of faith that has been given to us up to this moment while moving forward.

First Presbyterian Church was blessed with the 2023 Offterdinger-Williamson preaching series this summer with sermons by Rev. Jen Brothers, Rev. Vernie Bolden and FPC elder Erik Koroneos. The preaching series speaks of the elements of a life in faith, trusting God in the midst of vulnerability, change, and challenges, abiding in God's Spirit who dwells within us, imitating Christ in daily and prayerful example, and living freely with meaning, purpose, belonging and gratitude as a resurrected people.



We know from God's Word that Jesus is 'Life' and that He is the Light of all His creation. We are to live unshackled from all that would bind us up and keeps us from relationship with our Lord and others. *It is for freedom that Christ has set us free in order to serve one another humbly in love (Galatians 5:1, 13).* In our times of great need, God's Word gives us strength in remembering His works and wonders of old (*Psalm 77:11*). In life, God remains our greatest desire. *Whom have I in heaven but you? I desire you more than anything on earth. My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever. (Psalm 73:25-26).*

**Looking ahead – Sunday September 17**

**Power in Jesus' questions**

**Ebenezer Moments**