

*January 17, 2016*

## **ARE YOU LIVING TO DIE?**

*Pat Cowden*

The frenzy over the current Powerball lottery reminds me of a true story told by a missionary in North India. An eight-year-old boy was in one of the houses that he visited. The boy seemed genuinely interested in what he was saying about the Bible and the missionary struck up a conversation with the boy. He asked him, "What are you doing?" The boy said, "I go to school." "Why do you go to school?" "To study." "Why do you study?" "To get smart." "Why do you want to get smart?" "So I can get a good job." "Why do you want to get a good job?" "So I can make lots of money." "Why do you want to make lots of money?" "So I can buy food." "Why do you want to buy food?" "So I can eat." "Why do you want to eat?" "So I can live." "Why do you want to live?" The boy scratched his head while thinking about the question for a few moments, looked the missionary straight in the eye and said, "So I can die!"

Paul wrote, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Philippians 1:21. We need to ask ourselves the same questions this missionary asked this young boy. Why are we doing the things we do? Is it in anticipation for the heavenly reward? Are we "looking for and hastening the day of the Lord" (2 Peter 3:12)? Let's live to die in 2016.