

CHAPTER SEVEN

Meaning

Why Am I?

What am I doing here? What am I supposed to do with my life? What is the purpose of my existence? Human beings ponder over some of these questions at least once in their lives. The more contemplative ones muse over such concerns with earnestness. They believe that there must be a cogent reason for their being. For them, such questions are paramount and consequential. Still others, on the other end of the spectrum, have no concern about such matters. They believe that life has no meaning or purpose. For them, such questions are silly and inconsequential. Most human beings, however, lie in between these extremes. They go through the daily motions of their lives without thoughtful reflection. But occasionally – perhaps due to some eventful turn in their lives – such questions pop up in their minds. They may hang on to them, or they may dismiss them. The engrossing affairs of the world prevent most people from latching on to them. But no matter what lifestyle you follow or what you believe, it is worth examining the fundamental questions of life. As Socrates said, “The unexamined life is not worth living.” If you are reading this sentence, you have a life of your own. That life is precious, unique, and irreplaceable. It belongs to you – and only you. No one

else can ever own it. You would want to know why you have it. Is it an accident? Or is there any purposeful meaning behind it?