

BUT WHY?

- A Hi there! How are you?
- B Okay.
- A You don't look it!
- B I've been thinking.
- A Are you sure that's a good idea at your age?
- B Ha, Ha.
- A So what have you been thinking about?
- B Why?
- A Why what?
- B Just "why?"
- A Well, why not I suppose! But what were you thinking about "why?"
- B I was thinking that "why?" is THE most important question.
- A More important than what other questions?
- B Questions like Who? What? When? Where? and How?
- A So why is "Why?" the most important question?
- B Because it unlocks so many doors.
- A How?
- B No, "why?"
- A Yes, but how does "why?" help?
- B Well you are doing it already.
- A Doing what?
- B Asking me why "why?" is helpful?
- A Right....
- B Whatever the mystery hidden behind locked doors, just ask "but why?" and the door opens.
- A Why is that?
- B Because it gets to the heart of the matter.
- A So why are you looking so glum if you've discovered the most important question of them all?
- B Because I was sitting here thinking: "But why?"
- A "But why?" what?
- B Why am I here?
- A Because you came over and sat down?
- B No! Why am I on planet Earth?!
- A Because the moon is less habitable.
- B Seriously, why are any of us here at all?
- A Accident of birth perhaps?
- B Why live?
- A Why not?! "To be or not to be, that is the question"!
- B Why do we live? What is the purpose of life? Is it a test? Is it to entertain God?
- A Does there have to be a purpose?
- B Could YOU live with the thought that there isn't a purpose to life?
- AProbably.
- B The Bible says that God has a plan and purpose for life.
- A For the world you mean?
- B Yes, but also for each and every one of us.
- A A purpose just for me?
- B Yes.
- A Why?
- B Now you sound like me!
- A Why should there be just one purpose? Why not ten purposes?
- B Why not a million purposes, I suppose.

A I would settle for just one!

B Maybe the purpose of life is to help other people.

A ...Or even better...to be helped by other people!

B That's selfish!

A Why should selfishness not be the purpose of my life?

B Just because it IS selfish! Selfishness is sinful.

A Who says?

B God!

A If there is a God.

B There is.

A But just supposing there isn't a God, then the purpose of life could be a lot different.

B How is that?

A Well, I could be selfish without any come-back!

B But there is a God; and He doesn't like selfishness!

A So, what could His purpose possibly be for us?

B To love Him.

A And enjoy His love.

B There you go being selfish again.

A I know, but it would be two way love.

B And also to love others. The Bible says we should "love our neighbours".

A And have our neighbours love me.

B Well it would be a love triangle: God – others – me.

A Sounds good! But could we not just be evolving Godlessly? Nothing to do with God or love...just the instinctive propagation of the species...just a raw survival instinct?

B But why? What's the point? Evolving in what way? To what end? For what?

A For its own sake. No reason. No purpose. Just cos!

B Sounds pointless to me.

A Does there always have to be a point?

B I sincerely hope there is! The reason you found me glum was because I was starting to doubt the purpose of life and starting to wonder if it is purposeless.

A Maybe this is all a refining process...to make us sweeter!

Maybe this is all an educational process...as we learn about life in the school of hard knocks!

Maybe this is all about smoothing off our rough edges...till the diamond is revealed!

B Maybe this is all a preparation for Heaven...like our time in the womb is all about preparing us for life on planet Earth.

A Then again, maybe it is best to think about the purpose of this life in terms of THIS life, rather than as "pie in the sky when you die".

B Ah but if there is a God, and if we are going to be living with Him and other people for ever and ever with no Amen, then this life is very much connected to the next life

- just as the caterpillar's life does have a bearing on the butterfly's life
- just as the experience of the foetus has consequences even in adult life.

So, we need to get on the right track right away!

A Maybe, but I like to walk before I run; take one step at a time; get the hang of this afternoon's purpose before contemplating my eternal destiny!

.....which reminds me, what did I come into this room for again?

B God only knows!
