A close-up photograph of a hand holding a piece of light-colored, textured paper. The hand is positioned on the left side of the frame, with fingers gently gripping the paper. The paper has a slightly mottled, aged appearance.

When life
doesn't make
sense

A horizontal strip of brown, textured paper with a torn left edge. A small, rectangular, yellowish sticker is attached to the right side of the strip.


Psalm 37

*When life
doesn't make
sense*

Psalm 37


The reason we feel unfulfilled is that we have turned
from God as our source of joy!

Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of
your heart.



When life
doesn't make
sense
Psalm 37

Psalm 37:4 (NIV)




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

❖ Is God delightful?

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field.
When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went
and sold all he had and bought that field.



When life
doesn't make
sense


Psalm 37

Matthew 13:44 (NIV)

When life
doesn't make
sense
Psalm 37

If I were to ask you why you have believed in Christ,
why you have become Christians, every man will
answer truly, “For the sake of happiness.”

Saint Augustine




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

- Is God delightful?

❖ I need to take delight in the Lord

Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.



When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Psalm 37:4 (NIV)

*When life
doesn't make
sense*
Psalm 37

God's ultimate goal therefore is to preserve and display His infinite and awesome greatness and worth, that is, His glory.

John Piper

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for
the glory of God.




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

1 Corinthians 10:31 (NIV)

For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory. All glory to him forever! Amen.



When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Romans 11:36 (NLT)

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.

But as for me, how good it is to be near God! I have made the Sovereign Lord my shelter, and I will tell everyone about the wonderful things you do.



*When life
doesn't make
sense*

Psalm 37

Psalm 73:25, 26, 28 (NLT)

When life
doesn't make
sense
Psalm 37

God would be unrighteous (just as we would) if He valued anything more than what is supremely valuable.

But He Himself is supremely valuable.

If He did not take infinite delight in the worth of His own glory, He would be unrighteous.

When life
doesn't make
sense
Psalm 37

What could God give us to enjoy that would prove
Him most loving?


There is only one possible answer: Himself!

*When life
doesn't make
sense*

Psalm 37

So if God loves us enough to make our joy full, He must not only give us Himself; He must also win from us the praise of our hearts—not because He needs to shore up some weakness in Himself or compensate for some deficiency, but because He loves us and seeks the fullness of our joy that can be found only in knowing and praising Him, the most magnificent of all Beings. If He is truly for us, He must be for Himself!

He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Psalm 46:10 (NIV)

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him.




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Habakkuk 2:20 (NIV)

The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Psalm 51:17 (NLT)

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you,
my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land
where there is no water. I have seen you in the sanctuary and
beheld your power and your glory. Because your love is
better than life, my lips will glorify you.




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Psalm 63:1–3 (NIV)


As the deer longs for streams of water, so I long for you, O God. I thirst for God, the living God. When can I go and stand before him?



When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Psalm 42:1–2 (NLT)




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

- Is God delightful?
- I need to take delight in the Lord

❖ Delight is an emotion

“ ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.



When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37


Matthew 15:8 (NIV)

When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Where feelings for God are dead, worship is dead.

Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you
who are upright in heart!



When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Psalm 32:11 (NIV)

*When life
doesn't make
sense*

Psalm 37


If we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that our Lord finds our desires, not too strong, but too weak.

When life
doesn't make
sense
Psalm 37

We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.

C. S. Lewis

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

We write this to make our joy complete.




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

1 John 1:4 (NIV)


You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with
joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right
hand.



When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Psalm 16:11 (NIV)




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

- Is God delightful?
- I need to take delight in the Lord
- Delight is an emotion

❖ Will God really give me the desires of your heart?

Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of
your heart.




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Psalm 37:4 (NIV)


“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.



When life
doesn't make
sense
Psalm 37

Matthew 7:7 (NIV)


When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.



When life
doesn't make
sense
Psalm 37

James 4:3 (NIV)

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.




When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37

Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

*This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything **according to his will, he hears us.***


And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.




*When life
doesn't make
sense*

Psalm 37

1 John 5:14–15 (NIV)

- 
- Is God delightful?
 - I need to take delight in the Lord
 - Delight is an emotion
 - Will God really give me the desires of your heart?



When life
doesn't make
sense

Psalm 37