

Do You Have the Will For Changing and Rearranging? *Slide Notations*

We have defined ourselves as Christians, and that means, every day, we follow Christ! What if following Christ simply means re-arranging our lives to look more like His? Are we willing to deny ourselves the right to arrange what we want, when we want it, and, re-decorate with a cross? What does that change look like?

This past week... Added a personal cover letter for our volunteer packets... gave the page to current servers... Realized we were experiencing some temporary difficulties... Expectations not clear enough... **(R4.15)** Safe-servants, Moral-models, (Specifically w/kids)

Dear Applicant... First, let me thank you for wanting to move ahead in your relationship with the Lord. There are plenty of things that you will learn about Him and yourself as you start on the road of service! Be prepared to laugh a lot and cry some, to experience a few setbacks and many great joys. It's all part of following Him in His role of a Servant!

In the pages that follow you will see how seriously we take vetting the people who want to serve the people of Life Church. Your personal integrity and character is vital to the success we experience here (the fact that we are diligent to vet and follow up our workers plays a great part in what has made Life Church successful – and keeping the spiritual atmosphere clean.).

While no one is perfect and we are all a work in progress, the testimony of the Bible is that just one person *purposely living in sin*, can have great negative consequences for the whole group. *Let me make clear that there is a huge difference between falling into a sin and choosing a sinful pathway.*

While none of us would ever intend to cause someone else to stumble, there are some behaviors that have a profound and immeasurable effect on people who observe us doing them. These are behaviors, backed by spiritual premises we are always willing to talk through, that we feel our workers must be free of in order to work side by side with us.

The use of illegal drugs, the abuse of prescription drugs, the use of any type of alcohol or tobacco products. Each activity comes w/its own set of spiritual dynamics.

Involvement in any type of immoral sexual behavior: *fornication –homosexuality –adultery – pornography* – Any type of sexual activity outside of the marriage of one man and one woman is considered to be an immoral action.

I want to be very clear... we are not trying to legislate your behavior; you have the right to do whatever you want with your life. What we are governing, within the realm of our spiritual authority, is the negative influence certain behaviors can have on the unwary who are under our care.

If you are engaged in the above behaviors you are in the right Church. We exist to help people who are hindered in fulfilling their ministry. If you are engaged in any of the above behaviors, or at any time become engaged in them, we expect you to step aside from serving and let us help you toward your own personal wholeness.

Some people who read that, who will read it, will become angry, because they don't know what change looks like! They will make it about them, when it is about being "re-arranged" to go all-out for God and the people we serve! Jesus spent a lot of time, and used a lot words, trying to tell us to live all-out for God!

All-out! “My meat is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work!” **J4.34** “My Father works, and so I work. The Son can do nothing of Himself but what He sees the Father do, and whatever the Father does, the Son does too! As I hear, I judge, and it is right because I seek not My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me. **5.17-30** “If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true... I have other witnesses... but I have the greatest witnesses – the works which the Father has given me to do, *the same works, bear witness that the Father has sent Me, and the Father who sent me has born witness of Me!*” **5.31-37** “I didn’t come down from heaven to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent me...” **6.38** “As the living Father has sent Me, I live by the Father!” **6.57** “I honor My Father... and I seek not my own glory... and He honors Me.” **8.49-54** “My Father loves Me because I lay down my life...” **10.17** “My Father and I are one...” **10.30** “Father, glorify Your name...” **12.28** “I have not spoken of Myself but the Father who sent Me gave me the commandments of what I should say!” **12.49,50**

Jesus, the core of our identity, knew nothing of the distracted life... He stood dead center in the will of His Father! Why do so many believers stand “at the fence” of God’s will instead of the camping at the center? Jesus...

Jesus knew nothing of the compromised life!

If this life was about riches and toys, he would have had them all...

Not about being poor church... having nothing... doing nothing... It’s about true riches and righteous joys!

About using everything above “enough” to accomplish the mission! **1T6.6 Lk 16.9**

Jesus knew nothing of the distracted life!

Hey Jesus, there’s just gotta’ be more than one choice/one way/one thing... Hey Jesus, boys are getting together/night on the town... “shake, shake, shake...” Hey Jesus, have you seen...? Not legalistic approach to life! Loving-enough to lay down life for others! **J10.15, 15.13 2C12.15 Ph1.24 T6.18,19**

Jesus, the core of our identity, knew about being rich toward God and living for the day ahead!

So... DYHTW to turn your “my desire before I die list” into “to do for God today” list! Eyes off what you *really want to do* before you die... Onto, what He wants while you’re here? What if your list, like Jesus, was, “Today I need you to die!” Would you do it/run?

Luke 9.23,24 *If any man is following Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and accompany me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.*

It’s on your list, everyday... Come die, so others may live!

Colossians 3.17 *And whatever you do in word or action, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him!*

And whatever speaking or activity you cannot do in His name, don’t do it at all! Do everything as though He’s there and don’t do anything if He’s not!

So... what does “changing and rearranging” to follow Jesus look like?

Sometimes choice... most times challenge... and if ever you find yourself angry about doing right... you’re there!