

Make a Move - "What If...?"

What if I really believed that the powerful presence of Jesus lives in me?

Concern: We are raised to rely on ourselves - We can do it if we try hard enough.

- Independence is intoxicating - "Look what I've done." (or) discouraging - "I give up."
- Conclusion: My most noble human efforts aren't good enough even on my best day.

All of us fall into one of two categories regarding how we do life. Romans 8:1-14

- The natural man's focus is on self - All roads lead back to his wants/desires.
- The Spiritual man is in tune with God's promptings - Lives to glorify God.
- The indwelling Spirit identifies us as truly belonging to God. 8:9,14; Eph. 1:13
- The resurrection presence of God empowers us to live a changed life. 8:11

Our ability to live a changed life rests on our identity with Christ. Galatians 2:20

- *"I have been crucified with Christ"* - Stop striving to be good enough. Phil. 3:1-11
- *"It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me"* - Jesus lives His life through us.
- We connect to the presence and power of God by faith. 2:20; Colossians 2:9

Take the steps needed to claim the big vision God has for your life. Colossians 3:1-4

- *"Christ who is our life"* - What makes you come alive?
- Action Step: Evaluate and challenge all competitors seeking to win your heart. 3:1,2
- Action Step: Build into your life, influencers that orient you toward Christ.

Further Study and Pondering:

1. Why do we tend to rely on our own capabilities rather than depending on God?
2. Explain ways that you are aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit living in you.
3. Explain: "Our ability to live a changed life rests on our identity w/ Christ." Gal. 2:20
4. Further Study - "Christ who is our life" - (Philippians 1:21; 3:10; 4:19; John 1:1-4; 6:50-58; 14:6; Ephesians 1:3; 3:17-19; Colossians 2:6-10; 1 John 5:12) What is it that makes you come alive? (Sports, relationships, vacations...) Only Jesus is worthy to be your life. Tell Him.
5. Further Study - Colossians 3:1,2 - Keeping your focus on *"things above."* (John 18:36; Galatians 1:3-5; Eph. 2:4-7; Philippians 3:20-21; Hebrews 11:13-16; 1 Peter 2:11-12; 1 John 5:4-5)
6. What disciplines do you need to incorporate into your life that will help you to keep your focus on *"things above?"* Write out specific steps/strategies.
7. You have shared in Christ's death burial and resurrection - He lives in you. Read Rom. 6:1-14. Prayerfully apply this powerful truth to areas you currently struggle in.
8. Answer: What if I really believed the powerful presence of Jesus lives in me?

Connect to the powerful presence of Jesus alive in you!