



Lesson 46 Give Life to Your Best Self

04/19/2011 MEETING: PRESENT - I AM, Bob and Cindy

Death to self gives a bad connotation to what I am asking. I am asking you to give life to your best self; the self that wants to be good; the self that wants to be your best. So death is for those bad things, bad ideas and misdirection. No seek life and rebirth in Christ. Don't look at it as death instead look at it as birth/rebirth and beginnings. I'm not about the negative. I'm about the positive. The idea of death turns some people off. Emphasize the positive. Acknowledge Christ in all that you do. This is your new life. When a person chooses Christ they're not losing control. No, they still have free will. They are just choosing the path of righteousness. Speak this truth. It is good. Amen.
This is what you should teach on this week.

This week the Lord is teaching us about self except He wants us to look at it in a new light. He is telling us to, **emphasize the positive**. He said, the reason for this is because, **death to self gives a bad connotation**. Just the word death puts some people off and I agree death is not a pleasant thought. This is because it means something has come to an end. It has stopped. When we hear the word death we think of a person having lost their physical life here on earth. But the Lord is not talking about cessation of life, no He is simply speaking of the death of poor choices. No one likes to lose control; some may perceive following after the Lord's will as such. But He wants us to look at this differently. He said, **death is for those bad things, bad ideas and misdirection**. He wants us to focus on the positive. Focus on rebirth and life in Christ. He said, **Don't look at it as death instead look at it as birth and beginnings**. He said: **I'm not about the negative. I'm about the positive**. However, in spite of all the evidence to the contrary we humans do not want to give up making our own decisions, good or bad particularly when we are talking about living in God's will. We tend to be selfish in this regard. What has the Lord taught us about living in His will.

Proverbs 3:1-2, 5-6

My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

What better promise could we receive from the Lord; He tells us that if we follow after Him, acknowledging His ways then He will direct our path. He said you will have long life and peace. This goes along with Him saying, **I am asking you to give life to your best self; the self that wants to be good; the self that wants to be your best**. You see following His will, will give birth to your best self. It will result in your best life because He will be directing your path helping you to get rid of those **bad things, bad ideas and misdirections**.

He likewise gives us other promises; from **Deuteronomy 5:33** "You shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess. Likewise, from **Deuteronomy 10:12-13** "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to

fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today for your good?"

All these verses say that if we are obedient to the Lord's commandments following after His will then our days will be prolonged and they will be for our good. These promises all sound pretty good to me. How about you?

Jesus tells us to *"be perfect just as your Father in heaven is perfect"*. And He taught us to pray for the Lord's *kingdom to come* and *His will to be done*. I hate disappointing Jesus. I want to be a person that is pleasing to Him so this also is a reason for me being my best self.

Well do you think there could be other reasons why the Lord is encouraging us to give life to our best self? Let's see:

Another good reason for getting rid of this bad behavior is because we all interact with one another. **John 13:34** *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another."* You cannot love one another and be selfish at the same time. It just doesn't work. So love is an answer.

And from the THH website we learn that "Self" will keep you from moving perfectly with Him!

One aspect of "Self" has to do with pride and following our own spirit rather than the "things of the Spirit" presented by the Holy Spirit at His will.

God does not always reveal the end results of our being instantly and totally obedient until we obey correctly. This is true individually and corporately. So we catch a glimpse of why the Lord told us, *"be obedient to Me. Take this not as a light thing."* Perfection in obedience (with no "Self") is important, so we must pay attention and do exactly what God says to do. "Self" interferes with the Lord's governing being established in the earth.

Loving one another, moving perfectly with the Lord, and avoiding interference with what the Lord is establishing on the earth are all good reasons why we should get rid of self. And to further **Emphasize the positive**. **Ephesians 2:8-10** *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. **For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.***

And Jesus gave us this assurance also from **John 8:12** *"I am the light of the world, He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."* We have been created for good works and Jesus is guaranteeing us life if we follow Him. What more could we want?

Therefore, **Acknowledge Christ in all that you do. This is your new life. When a person chooses Christ they're not losing control. No, they still have free will. They are just choosing the path of righteousness.** Yes, choose the path of righteousness just as Jesus did. Your life will be enriched and you will reap blessings from those you have sown.

God Bless,

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