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There are Two Roads

In your life you will constantly have choices to make. You can choose to do whatever you want. That is the beauty of being an adult that so many of us longed for when we were children. This provides you with incredible power. The question is, "What will you do with that power?" Countless utilize this liberty to choose to satisfy their own desires and acquire as much as they can for themselves. On the contrary, true carriers of glory use this freedom to totally surrender to the will of the Father.

Luke 9:23-27 ESV And he said to all, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me. (24) For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. (25) For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? (26) For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when He comes in His glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. (27) But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God."

Freedom is a gift, precious and worthy of celebration. Yes, adulthood brings a level of freedom to make your own decisions that can be both exciting and dreadful. Yes, living in a nation such as the USA empowers you to exercise even more freedom. On the other hand, ultimately freedom is yours because you belong to Christ. When you accepted His free gift of salvation, He set you free from the power of sin, Satan and the system of this world. These things no longer have power over you, you are free indeed. See John 8:31-36. How do you maximize that freedom, access it to its fullest potential?

Here is one road. Should you take your freedom to do whatever feels good to you seeking to make yourself happy? What do you actually gain from living for yourself? Climb that ladder. Get whatever you can. Let nobody stop you. Then you will be happy, right? It might bring momentary pleasure. However, it quickly gets old. You start looking other places, never fully being satisfied. Essentially, you are still empty. Now you are frustrated that what you wanted so desperately is literally useless to you.

At this point, you start living for others. It could be your lover, your children, your grandchildren, your friends or your team, some group you are involved with. You think that now that you are not being selfish you have found the key to happiness. Surely putting others above you, yourself, will work. It seems to for a season. Eventually, the "high" from doing this subsides. Then you realize even living for them does not give you what you really need. Sometimes these very people hurt you, betray you or let you down. Even when they don't, there is an innate feeling that beckons to you. It lets you know that this is also not it. You are still on the same road. It just went through a makeover. Find another road.

Your soul is suffering through all of this. It is dying within you. Why is that? You are gaining the world but losing your soul. You desperately cry out for a way out of this. But how? There is another road than the one that you are currently on. Remember the freedom you have been given. Use it the right way. Commit wholeheartedly to follow after God's plan for your life. Surrender to what He wants you to do. Give up what you desire to do and be. Let your selfishness be burned up in the fire of total surrender. Though you have forfeited everything something amazing starts to happen. You realize that your life is not over. It is only just beginning. This is the vibrant life you were meant to have. As you perpetually live from this place, you attract His glory. He now approves of you to carry it. Will you?

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