

Christ-Directed Life

I once heard a preacher say, "What consumes your mind, controls your life," and I totally agree. Our actions are a result of what we think or believe. Are you expanding? And no, I am not talking about your waist line. Are you expanding in Christ?

As I prepared for today's message, I really felt He's calling you to let Him expand in greater measure within your life. Yes, God desires to expand within you in greater measure. Living a Christ-directed life means He is continually expanding with us.

Look at what expanding means:

- undergoing continuous change
- become or making larger or more extensive.

Many times trials, afflictions or sufferings are a way that we grow or expand in Him. However, when trials are lengthy we can develop a spirit of indifference or negligence which actually works against "expanding in Him." When you yield to Him you develop a level of maturity.

Think about it like this, Christians are like tea bags in which their real strength is not drawn out until they get into hot water. Are you in hot water? Your expanding in Christ is an expression of your continually-developing faith in Jesus Christ and your trials are a big part of it.

To have a Christ-directed life we must expand more with His presence within us. Spending time with Him is a big part of how we expand. As we expand it becomes visible in life through our knowledge of Christ, our love for Christ, and faith in Christ.

Our goal in life should always be about Him become greater and greater within us, while we become less and less. We can only do this as we yield control of our lives to Him and we do this by trusting in Him. To live a Christ-directed life faith is required in order to grow. I love the Word of God and how His Word always shows the way to live a Christ-directed life by faith.

"All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

You cannot expand in Him unless you want to expand in Him. Expanding in Him only results from purposing in our hearts to follow Him in all things at all times. "Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and **manifest myself to him**" (John 14:21).

Christ totally surrounds us we are actively engaged in life with Him. Today's message is a call for us to yield and as we do, we will live a Christ-directed life.

Heavenly Father,

In Jesus name I come before you. Help me to love You above all others and all other things. May I daily walk in truth and live a life that is directed by You. I want to listen to Your voice, be known by You and follow You. Empower me by Your Spirit. May my life draw nearer to You. May Your life be reflected in my thought life, what I allow myself to

read and see, the music I listen to, the conversations I engage in, how I conduct myself at work, in my home and neighborhood. I thank You Father for the life of Jesus. Help me to follow in His steps, for I know that whoever truly follows Him will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. You know my weakness and weariness, You know my trials and tribulations. You know the temptations of this world always pull at my heart to wander from the truth. I ask You to strengthen me! I ask You to pour out Your Spirit on me that I may live a Christ-directed life. Lord You know my desire is to follow hard after You and become, more and more like Your beloved Son. I pray, that on that glorious day when I see Your face I might hear You say "well done, good and faithful servant." In Jesus mighty name I pray. Amen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q51DxEKU30>

Misty Edwards- Soul Cry

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