

A FULL Life in God - 3/17/2010

Greetings Everyone!

God desires for us to live a full life in Him. Living a full life in God is when you are where God wants you to be, doing what God wants you to do, to whom God wants you to do it with, when God wants you to do it, how God wants you to do it even when you don't fully understand why you are doing it. This means you have given total control of your life to God; you continue to surrender daily, submit daily and do it joyfully knowing that God is working through and in your life for His good pleasure and for His sovereign purpose. That is a very FULL LIFE in God! But let's face it, how many people do you know who really enjoy operating in and on this level? There are many, but we don't hear about it often. **John 10:10** says *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.* [NIV]

But thanks be to God, I'm living that life now. It has taken countless years to get to this depth in Him, and don't think I don't still make mistakes because I do, but the mistakes I make now are so different than the ones I used to make. We are flesh and we will make mistakes, but we shouldn't continue to make the same mistakes. And to know that the depth that I walk in Him now, is still, only a drop in the bucket, a scratch on the surface, but I think it's absolutely wonderful to know Him deeper! This simply means my desire has been and remains to live for God, and now I can truthfully say I am so enjoying Him. And yes, even when the persecution comes, because I know even more so that there is nothing better or greater than for Him to receive the glory and honor out of whatever is going on in my life! That also means I have to continue to ask for a renewed mind [Romans 12] and continue to conform to God's ways, because there is so much out here that wants to distract us from the principles of God's Word. If you're leaning more to the secular world's view, more than likely, you need a Godly renewal adjustment [Romans 12]. Glory to God! Faith **pleases** God! Obedience **moves** God!

Oh, I continue to catch the heat my Friends! That has not ever stopped happening, but God is so gracious to me! He continues to refresh me like only He can. He continues to give me the spiritual support I so desperately need. I remain accountable and responsible first to Him and to those He has placed in my life. Oh, there is no greater joy and place I'd rather be than serving Him, pleasing Him, and obeying Him especially in the hard places! There is such safety in His loving Arms. I know there are those of you out there who know what I'm talking about. I'd love to hear from you! And for those of you who desire a deeper walk with God, I'd love to hear from you so that I can share how God has blessed me with the tools on how to manage my emotions on a level I never thought possible. I can hear the voice of God so much clearer now! **Matthew 5:6** says *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.* [NIV] How hungry are you?!

I will end by sharing the entire chapter of **1 Peter 4**. It is so worth sharing and reading! It shares what it looks like 'Living for God' as well as what it looks like 'Suffering for being a Christian.' My Friends, God is more than capable of keeping what belongs to Him. The question is, 'Do you want to be kept by Him?!' I love you! God bless you until next time!

! Peter 4 [NIV]

Living for God

¹Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. ²As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. ³For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. ⁴They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you. ⁵But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit. ⁷The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. ⁸Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. ⁹Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Suffering for Being a Christian

¹²Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ¹⁵If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. ¹⁶However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. ¹⁷For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸And, "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" ¹⁹So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.