HOW TO LIVE BY DYING

Discovering The Fullness of Victory – Part 2

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**Galatians 2:20 (NIV)**
I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

God wants you to experience that something more in your relationship with him, day-in, day-out. I'm not talking about an emotional experience. I am talking about a life-changing, life-empowering connection with Jesus Christ that puts your Christian life in overdrive. There's only one way to do that. **You've got to die.** Not literally, of course. Not physically. You have to die internally. Your hopes, your dreams, your goals, your desires — they all have to be put on the cross and put to death.

**Galatians 2:20-21 (NIV)**
I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"

THREE TRUTHS IN LIVING OUT THIS PRINCIPLE

1. Live Through Christ\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

"... I no longer live, but Christ lives in me..." (V. 20)

**Romans 12:2 (NIV)**
Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

"The real problem of the Christian life comes where people do not usually look for it. It comes the very moment you wake up each morning. All your wishes and hopes for the day rush at you like wild animals. And the first job each morning consists simply in shoving them back; in listening to that other voice, taking that other point of view, letting that other larger, stronger, quieter life come flowing in. And so on, all day." [C. S. Lewis *Mere Christianity*]

2. Live By Faith\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Galatians 2:20 (NIV)**
...The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God,...

**Philippians 4:13 (NLT)**
For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

**Romans 14:23 (NIV)**
and everything that does not come from faith is sin.

Sometimes we don't want to move forward on the strength of our faith, we want to move forward on the strength of a feeling.

3. Live In Grace\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Galatians 2:21 (NIV)**
I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"

You'll never earn salvation. Forget about batting a thousand  — it'll never happen. Your relationship with God is based on mercy. You've been given something that you don't deserve. If you're thinking that someday you'll become so good that your relationship with God is no longer based on mercy, you need to give up on that idea. You can't earn God's salvation by good works.

**Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)**
For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.

Do you ever catch yourself saying "There must be more than this."? Do you want to experience something more in your relationship with God? **Then you've got to die.** You have to be crucified with Christ, and you have to let him live through you, minute-by-minute of every waking day. You do this by faith, not by feelings. And you get there by grace.