

Shiloh Messenger

Significance Thru Loss

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it" (Mark 8:35).

There is much to be gained in loosing. In **Mark 8:35**, Jesus says, "to find your true purpose in life, you need to totally surrender your life for Mine." The world & society has placed high value on self-promotion & recognition. Even in our modern churches, people feel as though they need to be recognized and celebrated. I do believe in honor, especially to those who have given their lives to the ministry of the Word (I Timothy. 5:17). The scriptures clearly celebrate achievements of those who God chooses to promote & honor. I believe God's method of recognition & honor is by living a crucified life (Gal. 2:20). In **Mark** 8:35 the Lord is revealing to us the way to live a life of significance. It is by the fear of the Lord (Ps. 33:18) & dying to self. This is a heavenly perspective that cannot be understood by natural means.

The Lord has designed us to know Him intimately by the Holy Spirit (Jn. 4:24). Jesus also said "the Words that I speak are Spirit & Life" (John.6:63). When we read the Word of God it is spiritual life being revealed to our born again spirit. I believe most Christians are sincere about living a life that is pleasing to God. They also believe the Word of God is inspired by God. But when the trials & tribulations of life come and extreme pressure is applied, what happens? Most often carnality is manifested. In Romans 8:6, the Apostle Paul addressed carnality. He said, to be carnally minded is death, but, if you are spiritually minded you will enjoy Kingdom life and manifest peace. Here is the most significant area of our lives that must be addressed. It is living life in the Holy Spirit. In Romans 14:17 we find a significant verse for living a life of significance: "for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Everything we need for living a life of significance is found through intimacy with the Holy Spirit. When we yield to His promptings and allow Him to lead, He gives us eyes to see the Kingdom of God (Jn. 3:3-8). The Lord has made a way for us to enjoy His presence. It is by recognizing that we have the Holy Spirit, who has set up residence in our inner man. We must allow Him, His rightful place. When we do, He reveals the Love of God to our spirit man & then we are able to say, "Not my will but Yours my Lord & King".

We have untapped potential in us waiting to be developed. A greater purpose awaits our complete surrender. The Lord prophesied in John 14:12, "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father". Greater works than what Jesus did? Yes! As the Body of Christ, we re-present Him as anointed vessels filled with Kingdom Power. This power is the same Power that raised Jesus from the dead (Rom. 8:11). The Lord gave us a command to, "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8). This is supernatural life! We need to be living life to our full capacity & anointing.

The Apostle Paul wrote by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, in Ephesians chapter 2 verse 6, "we are His Body and we are seated with Christ in Heavenly places." This revelation was not for us to have great theology, but for us to experience. We have to be in a place of Oneness with Him to experience what was instructed in **Matthew 10:8.**

You probably have heard Christians say "Lord here I am use me!" God says, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me" (Matthew 16:24). Most stumble and fall at this, never understanding the significance of self-denial. There is much freedom in abandonment. The Lord would not ask you to do such a thing if it was not possible for you to yield a blessed life. He is worthy of our trust. We are called to model our lives like Christ. "As He is, so are we in this world" (1 John. 4:17).

For Deb and I we are living a supernatural life. It is my belief that no one should instruct others how to live this Divine Life, unless they are experiencing it and manifesting spiritual fruit. My wife and I are very grateful to The Lord for rescuing us from our life of sin. Both of us where selfish and manifested a dwarfed mindset about living a crucified life. It was only when we became desperate for His Divine Nature did we ascertain a perspective to live a powerful life. It is dying to self and simply believing all that He has said in His Word. All has been provided for us in Christ. We are blessed to have understanding about the Holy Spirit and His ministry in us. No, we have not arrived, but we have left a starting place to run the race set before us. There is no way we could have seen and encountered such Grace and provision at Shiloh, except for faith in our resurrected King. We invite you to live a life of significance also. Choose today to lose your life, in order to gain a significant life, for His Glory.

Students Testimony

Hello, my name is Nathan Galvan and I am 26 years old. I am from Laredo Texas. I am the oldest of 4 siblings and grew up never lacking anything. My loving parents have always given me everything that I ever needed and much more. I was taught at a very young age to work hard by my Grandfather whom I love very much, but has now gone to be with the Lord. I excelled in sports in high school, and made varsity football and baseball team as a sophomore. This was the time I was introduced to drugs. I just wanted to fit in and be accepted. In high school, I took a trip down a road in which sin kept me longer than I planned to stay. When I got out of high school, I started smoking marijuana, drinking alcohol, taking Xanax, and using cocaine. When I consumed these drugs, I did things I wouldn't normally do. I started to get mixed up with the wrong people, and started selling drugs. I moved to San Antonio Texas and made a decision that would change my life forever. I ended up making a bad drug deal and during that time some people found out I had drugs in my apartment. They came to my apartment and beat me up badly and held a gun to the back of my head. I felt my life flash before my eyes, but thank God He protected me that day. My friends & I found out who did this to me and we retaliated and kicked the door into their apartment. I was arrested and re-



ceived a felony burglary of a habitation entry by force. While in jail, I cried out to the Lord for help. Romans 10:13 says, "whoever cries out to the Lord shall be saved." My Mom called Shiloh Ministries and the judge let me come here. God kind of tricked me, because I thought Shiloh was a drug rehab. Shiloh is a supernatural ministry where the presence of God delivers men who struggle with drugs and alcohol addiction. Shiloh is a spiritual boot camp that trains men to be soldiers of the Cross. Since I have been at Shiloh, one verse from the Bible awakens my Spirit man. Psalms 40:2 "He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire, he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand." This is one of many verses that I stand on, because God put me on a rock, which is Jesus Christ. I now desire to share with others that, they need a Supernatural encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ. This is why I believe I'm called to return to Shiloh after graduation to be trained as a Staff person. I thank God every day for the obedience of Pastor Rocky, Sister Debbie, Cliff, Jarrod, Chris & Brother David Walls for being obedient to the call that God has on their lives. But, I thank God for Shiloh Ministries, because this is "His Ministry."

We want to thank everyone who financially partners with us in this Supernatural Ministry. It is because of special people like you, men have the opportunity to encounter the "Presence of God." Since the year 2000, we have been participating with the Lord in seeing men restored back to Him, so their destiny can be fulfilled. We are thrilled to hear from our graduates testifying about their experiences of advancing the Kingdom of God in their families, the market places and foreign countries where many are serving as missionaries. We would also like to invite others to help us financially in this ministry of reconciliation for restoration. Please consider Shiloh Ministries as good ground for your financial seed. We would also like to ask Pastor's for the opportunity for the students to come & share with their congregation. We invite everyone to come and take a tour of the Shiloh Campus, if you are in the Liberty area (located 45 miles east of downtown Houston). We would be glad to meet you and show you what extraordinary things the Lord is doing at Shiloh. Thanks again, for co-laboring with us and prayerfully considering financially supporting The Lord's Ministry at Shiloh.

(Shiloh Ministries is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 charitable organization. All financial gifts are tax deductible at the end of the year.)

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