

Fully Alive

LIVING FULLY ALIVE

Five action steps to be the Me that I really am vs. the Me that God wants me to be:

1) God commands us to **DELIGHT** in Him.

Zephaniah 3:17 (NLT) *For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs."*

Psalms 37:4 (NLT) *Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires.*

2) Stay **CONNECTED** and the Spirit of God will flow through you.

John 7:37-38 (NLT) ³⁷ *On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, "Anyone who is thirsty may come to me!" ³⁸ *Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.'"**

3) Let God **DRIVE** your life. We are not only saved by grace, we live by grace, one **SURRENDER** at a time.

Matthew 10:39 (NLT) *If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.*

4) A flourishing mind feeds on **LIFE-GIVING** thoughts.

Romans 12:2 (NIV) *Do not conform 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.*

5) Live for others and enjoy **COMMUNITY**.

Philippians 2:3 (TLB) *Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself.*

Making A Difference

Matthew 16:24 (NLT) *Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.*

- The God of the Cross is renewing and creating all things to flourish through the power of **SACRIFICIAL LOVE** and we get to be a part of it.
- To be fully alive, ask God for a **CHALLENGE** bigger than yourself, one that will make a difference in this world.

Finding Your Challenge

- The Story of Caleb

Joshua 14:7-8 (NLT) ⁷ *I was forty years old when Moses, the servant of the Lord, sent me from Kadesh-barnea to explore the land of Canaan. I returned and gave an honest report,⁸ but my brothers who went with me frightened the people from entering the Promised Land. For my part, I wholeheartedly followed the Lord my God.*

- Caleb's desire for challenge was both God's gift to him and his gift to God.

Joshua 14:10-12 (NLT) ¹⁰ *"Now, as you can see, the Lord has kept me alive and well as he promised for all these forty-five years since Moses made this promise—even while Israel wandered in the wilderness. Today I am eighty-five years old." ¹¹ *I am as strong now as I was when Moses sent me on that journey, and I can still travel and fight as well as I could then. ¹² **So give me the hill country** that the Lord promised me. You will remember that as scouts we found the descendants of Anak living there in great, walled towns. But if the Lord is with me, I will drive them out of the land, just as the Lord said."**

Knowing Your Mountain

- Your mountain will be unique and it usually lies at the **INTERSECTION** of the tasks that tap your greatest strengths and the needs that tap into your greatest passions.
- For sure... God has a mountain with your name on it.

Your deepest longing should be to be **ALIVE** with God, to become the person God made you to be and to be used to help God's world flourish. It is available to all this very moment.

small groups—talk it over

1. What is in the gap between who you really are and who God wants you to be?
2. What logo would you choose for your life?
3. What does the Cross mean to you?
4. Is there a challenge brewing in your heart that would take you out of your comfort zone?
5. What stands out about the life of Caleb?

mission council prayer requests

Monday: Pray for Nazarene missionaries who serve globally to win the lost to Christ.

Tuesday: Pray that God guards the hearts of missionary kids as their families give of themselves.

Wednesday: Pray that the Holy Spirit will show God's truth with signs and wonders in the world.

Thursday: Pray for missionaries who serve among the homeless near the US-Mexico border.

Friday: Pray for our youth that they may grow to be strong, influential people of God.

Saturday: Pray as God brings youth leaders into places of influence to transform lives.
