

Another Beautiful Life

Podcast Worksheet

This worksheet is intended to use as a complement to my podcast "Another Beautiful Life." It would benefit you most if you listen to the episode before continuing. Please take some time to be contemplative in your answers. My suggestion is to ask the Holy Spirit to lead you through it before you begin. I'm already praying you hear His voice clearly.

Episode 17 - Risk and Reward: Part 1

In episode 16, Danger In Safety, we explored what it would look like to remove the safety net we create in our life to ensure our comfort and safety. We are hard wired for self-preservation, but the danger comes when we rely on things in our life to be our source of safety instead of allowing our Heavenly Father to be our source. There is a real reward that we'll find when we take the risk of pulling away the safety net.

1) What type of reward do you think you'll receive when you pull away the safety net?

Everything that we rely on besides God is an idol and that is sin. First Peter 4:1,2 says, "Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking; for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God." Peter's point is that when believers *willingly* choose to suffer, the nerve center of sin is severed in their lives; and this opens up an opportunity to choose the best thing, and that is to live - for as long as you get to live in your flesh - not for human passions, but for the will of God. I had lots of confessing to do. I liked living for my human passions. How about you?

2) In what ways is giving up "living for human passions" a form of suffering?

In the First 15 Devotional titled The Longing To Be Wholehearted, the author said, "God is calling you to a life of wholehearted, passionate surrender. God's calling you to a life of adventure in which the outcome is only known to Him. He's calling you to step out of everyday living to a life of staggering surrender so that this world will no longer feel like home."

3) What adventure do you think God is calling you to?

If you're not sure, close your eyes now and ask Him to show you.

The First 15 Devotional goes on to say, “The call is worthwhile. His presence is worth the cost. God has a story for the ages prepared just for you – a story with real, eternal impact. But it will cost you everything to live it. If this truth sounds radical to you, it’s because it is.”

4) What do you think living this adventure, this story will cost you?

Giving up your safety net and putting yourself in God’s careful and benevolent hands allows you to experience His presence in a way that makes everything worth the risk; worth the cost. For me, I knew that in order to do something big that had an eternal impact, it could only be done with the LORD’s power and His doing. God’s power alone would enable me to do this; to step out of the security of all that I’ve known and into the new. I knew that seeing Him show up powerfully like this, I was going to experience His presence in a fresh, new way.

5) What do you think you will gain by going on this adventure with God? What is worth the risk?

In Judges 6, Gideon was called by God to lead a mighty army into battle. But Gideon was afraid. Maybe Gideon was even skeptical, so much so that he tested God’s calling. He knew it was too big to take lightly. The task was beyond himself. The risk was high. Defeat was sure if he was going in his own power, ability, and might.

6) What is that you’re afraid of? Use this space to be honest with God about it:

With God, victory was already done. In fact, when Gideon finally decided to walk the new road God called him to, he found real peace. There, he calls the LORD Jehovah-Shalom, the God of peace.

What about you, friend? Will you choose to take an insurmountable risk no matter what you might face knowing that you’re walking with God? Are you willing to take a risk in order to find the beauty of God’s presence with you in a whole new way? If you’re willing, I believe you will find another beautiful life!