



WHAT'S MISSING IN YOUR LIFE?

Friends Day:

Have you stopped to ponder, "Is this all there is to my life?" There has to be more than the 9-to-5 grind. If you win the rat race, the problem is you're just the best rat.

Is something missing in your life? Do you feel that the more stuff you get, the more you feel a void of satisfaction in your life? Some of us keep buying things we don't really need with money we don't have to impress people we don't like!

Are you climbing the ladder of success only to discover its leaning against the wrong wall? The mighty ruler Charlemagne was buried with an open Bible on his chest. His bony finger was pointed to Matthew 16:26 - "What profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" Are you merely making a living or making a life? Where are you on your journey to eternity?

You have a forever living spirit made in God's spiritual "image" (Genesis 1:27). All is for nothing unless our soul is prepared to meet God on our journey to eternity. So, have you been thinking you need a closer relationship with God?

Ancient Playboy Suffers Burnout.

In the Bible, King Solomon was the affluent playboy of the ancient near eastern world. He wrestled with man's search for meaning. "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity...he who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income" (Ecclesiastes 1:2, 5:10). This physical world can never provide the lasting satisfaction you seek because you have a higher, spiritual dimension. It's like trying to satisfy our thirst by drinking salty sea water; the more we drink the thirstier we become. He realized life without God is not worth living (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

God has "set eternity in our hearts" (Ecclesiastes 3:11). We have an eternal dimension that only God can spiritually fulfil. Your inner empty feeling is your soul starving to connect with its divine Creator. "He made from one man every nation of mankind...that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from

each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist" (Acts 17:26-28). Your inner being yearns to connect with your Maker.

Restoring Original Christianity

Yet, many are disillusioned with churches today. Worldly church goers aren't really happy, because they are trying to straddle the fence between God and Satan. Some churches seem to be more interested in getting your money than saving your soul. Others seem to tolerate blatant hypocrisy. What's missing here?? The life-changing practice of true Christianity!

Jesus said, "The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life" (John 6:63). Jesus claims that He is able to give us "life more abundant" (John 10:10), which is the greatest quality of life known to man.

Jesus teaches us how not to worry so much. "Do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?" (Matthew 6:25-26). Life is more than, "What's for dinner?" and "How good do I look in this outfit?". God created us to live for Him, so we can trust Him to care for us.

Jesus alone has the secret of quenching our spiritual need. "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water'" (John 7:37-39). Only a right relationship with God through His Son Jesus can give freedom from guilt, peace of mind, joy in living and purpose in life.

Please Visit Us!

At the New Plymouth church of Christ, we have found forgiveness and fulfilment in the spiritual gospel of Jesus Christ. We're a nondenominational congregation of Christians. We simply seek to follow "the Way" He originally revealed in His Word for man to live by (Acts 24:14, John 14:6). "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32). The doctrines and traditions of men cannot fulfil our soul.

We seek to restore the original ideals of Christianity in faith, practice and spirit. We put emphasis on great family Bible classes for all ages. God chartered the church to be "the pillar and support of the truth" (1 Timothy 3:15), not secular fun and frolic. We also offer practical classes on marriage and family. Our preaching aims to bring the Bible to life. Our worship is dignified and God-glorifying. You will find a warm, friendly welcome as our honoured guest. Please come see how the way of Christ can satisfy your soul and fulfil what's missing in your life.

Allan Fowell.