



Inspiration

For the Mystical Journey with Christ
August 2010

For the rest of our lives –

Let Us Live!

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Man's foremost need is to know how to *live* more fully. Most persons are not living, but dwelling instead in a haze of routine existence. Few of their days make indelible impressions. Most of them pass with unbelievable rapidity. All the while, man is conscious of an emptiness, a missing of the tang that would give flavor and joy to each hour.

A small boy once inquired of an elderly man, "Sir, do you think that life at its best is worth living?"

The white-haired man replied, "I do not know. I have never lived it at its best."

Most of us are haunted by the fact that we are not experiencing life at its best. This may be due to moral weaknesses that drain from us the full attention necessary for so vital an attainment. Most persons are conscious,

however, that their days are only half-lived, because they have never confronted issues that awakened them to higher realizations.

Dr. T. Z. Koo, a distinguished Chinese Christian, came face to face with a crisis that pointed to the real values of life. He lay at night in a field near Chungking while Japanese bombers wrought damage to the land all around him. As he lay there he realized that his money, position, university degrees, and friends were powerless to help him in this place of danger. The only Power to which he could turn for protection and peace was the presence of God. This sudden realization of his prime need brought Dr. Koo a new appreciation of the true underlying values of life.

The majority of humanity does not realize how superficially it lives. Edward Thorndike carried out an interesting investigation in regard to the habits of human beings. He found that most people do not spend more than four hours out of every hundred in studies or pursuits of an intellectual nature. That means that an average person uses his mental faculties about one hour every day. Chiefly, his time and interest are given to routine tasks that can easily be performed by habit.

Stuart Chase also conducted an experiment in constructive living that merits attention. In an article called "Are You Alive?" he tells how he tried with all his will and intelligence to extract from a week as many hours of living as he could command. He was chagrined to discover that out of 168 hours he had lived only 40 – the remaining 128 hours were spent existing!

The Rest of Our Life

Nearly everyone asks himself at some period of his earth experience, "What shall I do with the time that is left of this lifetime?" And at a later stage of spiritual unfoldment, we are apt to inquire, "What shall we who are "twice-born" do with our lives?"

Such searching questions usually inspire their own answers. Each of us learns that the remaining seasons of our earth life need to be spent in actual *living* so that every minute is filled to the brim with zestful, appreciative growth. When we succeed in parting with old habits of faint-heartedness, procrastination, and self-indulgence, we find our new lives of freedom "twice-born." This awareness of rebirth is charged with a new *purposefulness*, and a new *time-value*.

Our former endeavors to live more sincerely were possibly impeded by too many interests and diversions. I remember reading of a pertinent example of our divergent activities. A man whose key ring was crowded by too many keys began to take inventory of the assortment. He mentally inquired of each one, "Do you unlock anything?" He soon realized that most of the keys no longer served any useful purpose. Only six actually unlocked something. All the others were eliminated.

All of us want to live peacefully and capably, but we seldom put ourselves into a condition to succeed in our aims. We have thoughtlessly squandered our time and have been burdened, like the man with the keys, with too many duties. We need now to begin again – consciously and deliberately – to see life as something sacred that we may highly evaluate every moment of this human experience.

There are clocks so intricate and delicate that only their makers can readjust and repair them. Only the Supreme Artisan knows by what magic we can be made to grow joyously and efficiently. It is for us every day to give ourselves unreservedly into His keeping for needed alterations and improvements.

Sir Francis Bacon said, "The real order of experience begins by setting up a light." It shall be our aspiration to live in such a manner that we are conscious of the rich crowning value of every hour. With Ruth Harwood, we will realize,

*This is the day
of the Shining Way.
This is the hour
Of the Lord's full power.
This is the minute
With all heaven in it!*

Sincerely Yours,

Flower

It is the **60th Anniversary** of the **Masters'** visits in Chapelito with Flower A. Newhouse. Come join us **tomorrow**, August 14, for a Silent Retreat to honor Their continual guidance and support. Please meet at 9:30 in Chapelito.

Hope to see you there!

Important Date:

Michaelmas Retreat: September 24, 25 and 26

Check our [calendar of events](#) for more activities and up-to-date information.

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