

Week 9: My Dreams, My Legacy - *What will my life say about me?*

My Story

For most of my life I have stressed myself to the point of exhaustion trying to force circumstances to make my dreams into reality. Get a degree, get a job, get a husband, get some children and then work, work, work to buy the right house in the right neighborhood. Join the right organization boards and work, work, work until you are asked to be the leader. Serve at church and work, work, work so people will deem you worthy and acceptable. And then God spoke into my weary, heavy heart.

Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Matthew 11:28-29 MSG

He encouraged me to invite some friends to come on a retreat and see what He had in store for all of us. So, we stole away from our families and our jobs and our activities and we spent time with our Master and Savior. It was amazing!

During that time away God reinforced lessons He had already taught me.

1. Cultivate an intimate relationship with me. Psalm 16:8,9
2. Let me be God so you don't have to. Leviticus 26:13
3. You only need the sound of my applause. Revelations 4:11
4. Give your life away so I can use you. Luke 6:38

Pastor Chris said in one of his messages that the value of our life isn't determined by how much we achieve or accumulate, but by how much of our lives we give away. Life is about giving for the sake of someone else. That is how we should be remembered. That is our legacy.

Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity. Luke 6:38 MSG

Recently, a sweet friend went to be with the Lord. At her home going service we all commented that we would remember her laughter, her smile and how she gave of herself to all of us. That is a legacy worth leaving.

I am still a work in progress, but every day I get a little better by spending time with Jesus in prayer and in the Word, and with those he allows me to do this life with.

Questions to Ask Yourself

- What is God asking you to give today?
- What is in your hand to share? It may only be time, but that is enough.
- How might your "giving" impact those around you?

Final Thoughts

It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20:35