

A More Complete Way

Colossians 1:24-29

Our growth with God is an exciting adventure. To enjoy it fully God has narrow side trails He would have us walk. These roads are not the broad paths of conventional wisdom, for God's ways are higher than are ours. Let's search out a way less traveled, but a way walked by God.

Christianity Tends to Fall into Three Models: Industrious, Traditional, and Passionate

- Matthew 19:16
- Mark 7:1-8
- God gives deference to passionate insistence (Lk. 24:28-29)

We need to see God Himself as the Blessing

- All of the works God has prepared for Christians are based on our being in a relationship with Him (Matt. 28:18-20).
- Hebrews 11:6
- Matthew 11:27-30
- Colossians 3:17

Are We Being Swept Along in a Safe, Predictable, Shallow Current that Leads to a Pond Rather Than an Ocean?

- Children of the King are not to be content with the ordinary
- Ephesians 3:20-21
- Romans 16:25-27

Have We Become so Enamored with the Idea of Solving Problems and Removing them that We Fail to See How Life can be Transformed by Trials?

- Ease is not the goal, spiritual maturity is the purpose of Christ-likeness
- James 1:2-4
- Matthew 5:10-12
- Colossians 1:24

Personal is More Fundamental than is Being Productive

- Relationships are more rewarding and motivating than merely doing deeds.
- I Corinthians 13:1-3
- John 17:3

Our Problems Need to be Seen more as Contexts than as Controlling Factors of our Lives

- No external force can conquer us apart from our giving in
- Romans 8:31-39
- Hebrews 12:28
- Philippians 4:11-13

There are Those Who See Passionately the Cross of the Christ and are Willing to Forsake the Crowded Path to Follow One Not Yet Seen

- Jesus' life was anything but dull and predictable, so it will be with those who follow Him closely
- Luke 5:9-11
- Hebrews 11:8

The truer way of discipleship involves sacrificial, uncompromising service, but not just the service of deeds done. Truer, more complete discipleship is grounded in a relationship of love.

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