

The Kingdom of your LIFE!

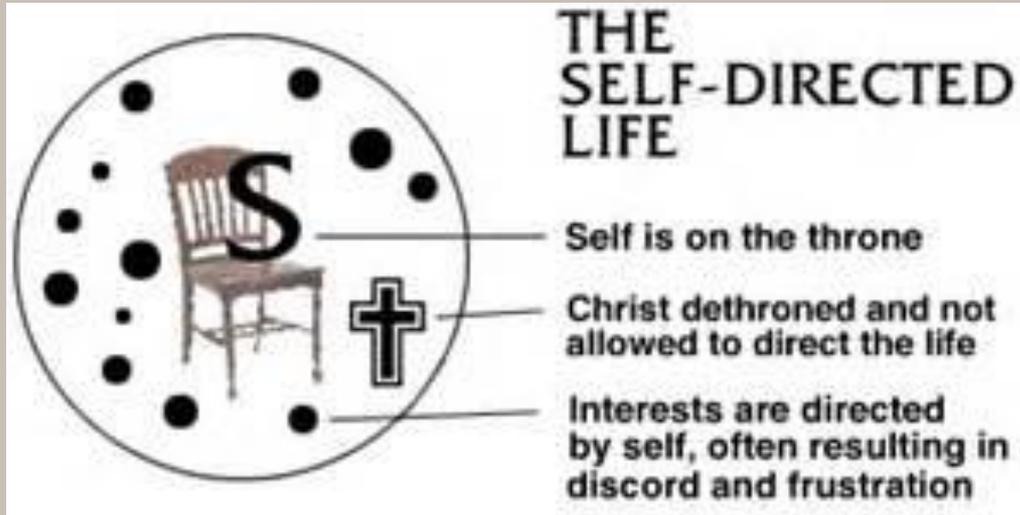


Illustration
by CRU

- The battles you fight every day
 - Delay this bill to pay that bill
 - Move the full size spare onto the car
 - Enroll Junior in martial arts to avoid bullies



- **Luke 14: 31 “Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? 32 If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. 33 In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples. NIV**





Last week

- Counting the Cost ahead of time

Today:

Surrendering the Troops



1. Trusting in your own resources

- What amounted to security at that time
- Where does your security rest today?
- We put securities in place to set our fears at rest.



2. Seeking Peace

- “he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace.”
- The responsibility of a king is to seek peace for his people
- The responsibility of a family head is to seek peace for his/her family
- The individual seeks personal peace



2. Seeking Peace

- Surrender is better than
 - Death
 - imprisonment
- If you surrender, life will be different than it has been
- People cling to the familiar, even if it is not that great of a circumstance



3. Be willing to give it up

- Last week, the story of my call
- New House
- Gave it up to move to Seminary
- If I wanted to be a part of the Evangelical Covenant, I had to go to at least one year of seminary at NP.



4. If I want _____,
then I have to _____.

- If I want peace, I have to surrender.”
- If I want a white collar job, I have to go to college.”
- If I want military retirement, I have to serve 20 yrs”
- If I want to live in Christ, I have to die to self”



3. Be willing to give it up

- “he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. (surrender) 33 In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.”
- It’s all about surrender
- It’s all about the choice to live or die
- It’s all about taking your self down off the throne of your life. No longer king.



5. If I want to live in Christ, then I have to die to self.

- Romans 6:6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin--- 7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him NIV



5. If I want to live in Christ, then I have to die to self.

- Galatians 2:20
- "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.
- Ephesians 4:22-24
- that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.



5. If I want to live in Christ, then I have to die to self.

- Philippians 3:8
- More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,
- Colossians 3:5
- Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.





THE CHRIST-DIRECTED LIFE

CHRIST is on the throne

Self is yielding to **Christ**

Interests are directed by **Christ**,
resulting in **harmony** with **God's plan**



I surrender some
I surrender some
Some to Jesus I surrender
I surrender some



Some to Jesus I surrender
Some to Him I freely give
I will partly love and trust Him
In His presence sometimes live



I surrender some
I surrender some
Some to Jesus I surrender
I surrender some



Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son

- It is God's will for you to be conformed to the image of Jesus
- Red flag: "I probably shouldn't but..."



So What?

- From the time a person first trusts in Jesus as savior, God's Holy Spirit begins chipping away at his/her "self." Let God chip away.
- God's Holy Spirit continuously brings to light in our minds the areas where we are unwilling to give up control of our "selves." Stop resisting.



So What?

Luke places this parable of Jesus right after the challenge to go into the highways and hedges to bring people in.

Consider if you died to self, what would prevent you from going to the highways and hedges?

