



The Mesmerizing Self Life

"What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you?" James 4:1 (NLT)

One of my favorite places in the world is Cape Kiwanda on the Oregon Coast. The waves come rolling in, crashing against the huge rocks. As they roll back, they meet the next wave rolling in, creating a magical dance. I could watch for hours....Mesmerized, the desire builds in me to dive in and join the party!

Lost in the beauty of the dance, I seem to lose track of the strength of the rocks, how they stand so firm, unchanging, as they resist the constant barrage of waves.

Yet, the rocks are what protect me. Jumping in to join the dance would make for a short life in the chilly Pacific!

We easily become mesmerized by things we perceive as beautiful, that we think will be good for us, only to discover they lead to trouble.

Our evil desires, disguised as good and beautiful, seem to offer such promise. I've had many people come to me, seeking advice, really just wanting me to tell them it's OK to do what they so desire. "Dive in!" they want me to say. They don't want to hear anything that would interfere with their self's desire. Mesmerized, they are blind to the dangers awaiting them.

In his book, *Get Your Life Back* (Eldredge, 2017), John Eldredge writes:

"...the devil doesn't particularly care what your personal sins are, how he gets you to stumble; what he delights in is this internal access he has, the precious Self. For while we entertain the Self, pamper it, let it have its way, we crowd out the life of God."

The devil is wise and crafty; he knows how to use your Self Life as a doorway into your life, entering so he can keep you away from God, your Rock.

He crafts such beautiful pictures, a dance, and calls you to join him. Oh, it looks good and is so logical. "Why not?" we say to ourselves, "I'd be a fool not to." Mesmerized, we find ourselves diving in, oblivious to the consequences to our lives.

A simple example: My wife was at Costco waiting near the return line. A lady came to the counter to return a used hair dryer...it was over 2 years old! Seriously? Yes, Costco has a no questions asked return policy, so technically this is "legal"...but right? "Why not?" some say. Or perhaps it's the tweak of a number on your taxes to save a few bucks. "Why not?" the evil one whispers, "everyone else does this!" **What's the cost?**

Living the Adventure God Made You For calls on you to stand firm against such temptations; you will face even harder choices than

these.

Imagine, in pursuing your **Life Mission**, it brings you to a new job opportunity. The new job is exciting, right on mission (impacting lives, making a difference, fulfilling), yet it pays only half what you currently make. Still a totally livable wage, yet a big change in lifestyle. You'd have to downsize.

Your enemy enters the door, getting your Self Life to shift your focus.

"You'd be a fool to give up so much income. Imagine what others will think. You could never do this; it would destroy your plans to retire at 62 like you want." On and on he spins his tale. Soon, if you're not careful, you'll become mesmerized, the Self Life pushing out God.

Decision time comes. You chose to focus on the waves and forget the Rock. Your adventure stopped in its tracks, the rationalization begins. "I really wanted to pursue that new job, it would have been great, but life is too expensive. It would have messed up my plans. If I won the lottery I definitely would do it though!"

Fast forward 30 years, you find yourself regretful, alive, but not really having lived. **What an incredible price to pay.**

Living the Adventure God Made You For requires you to stay focused on the Rock, so much so that the waves begin to fade. Relentlessly pursue your Life Mission, your reason for being, trusting God to be the firm foundation that keeps you safe.

Engage the Mission Curve™ process, learn your Life Mission then pursue it with your whole self. It will change your life.

Guaranteed.

Follow the link below to schedule a free consultation on how to start the process.

[Mission Curve™ Process - Guaranteed](#)

Spirit Talk

(Post this where you can see it regularly)

"I serve the Lord."

"No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money." Matthew 6:24 (NLT)

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