

The Greatest Merge



“But those who won’t care for their relatives, especially those in their own household, have denied the true faith.

Such people are worse than unbelievers.”

The Apostle Paul | 1 Timothy 5:8 (NLT)

Align Your Life.

For the last number of years, as I've entered the new year, I spend some time with God and come up with one word as a theme for the year. (It's called the "One Word Challenge" ...You can read about it here <https://www.onewordchallenge.com>) I find that simple concepts like this suit me well... one of my fundamental mantras is:

Keep it Simple - Complexity causes confusion, which leads to inaction, which leads to regret.

As I've worked to come up with my one word for this year, I've felt a tension. On one hand I know I'm to focus on my Life Mission. That's a key reason God has me here after all. Not pursuing it is not an option... I would hate to find myself trying to explain to God why I did not. In fact, I want to pursue it more because when I'm engaged on it, it's very fulfilling. So, I'm actively pushing into new forums to "do it more", which oftentimes means leaving old forums and this can carry financial risk. This is the inherent nature of living out the Adventure God Made You For. If you're truly living it out, there is no avoiding this.

On the other hand, I have a number of family responsibilities that are pressing. These will require some financial resources, plus a lot of focused energy and time. Hence the tension. At first glance these seem to be conflicting priorities. You might say a battle between...

The practical realities of your life vs. the noble ideal of living out your Life Mission.

Yet, God makes it clear that we are responsible both for our families and for doing what he placed us here to do. God is not “either/or” when it comes to his priorities. Either/or implies limitations... not in God’s vocabulary! I have chosen not to fight God on this.

Since God says both my Life Mission and my family responsibilities are priorities for him, both are priorities for me.

Our tendency at these points is to bail out, letting the seemingly urgent responsibilities preside. I know, because I have stood at these crossroads many times before. The reality is that when we pursue our Life Missions, we will often find ourselves facing this apparent dilemma. If we maintain that this is an “either/or” decision, most of us will bail out from our Life Missions. The result? Life becomes an endless trudge through a swamp of responsibility.

Choosing the urgent responsibility over pursuing your Life Mission leads to an unfulfilled life.

No one wants to live a dismal, unfulfilled life. Jesus did not come to save you so you could live a such a life.

“The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.” Jesus Christ | John 10:10 (NLT)

I’m drawn to the imagery Jesus paints with his words. I want this life! Way beyond a daily drudge, it only comes when you live out your Life Mission in the midst of your life. When you come to these dilemmas along your journey, you must choose to pursue both your practical responsibilities and your Life Mission. This requires alignment.

Accept the reality that your Life Mission transcends your entire life.

Consider it part of who you are as a Christian. Take your wholeness as a Christian, including your Life Mission, wherever you go and look for opportunities merge it into whatever you do. Then watch God work out all his priorities in your life.

My one word is for 2021? Merge!

Merge Your Mission.

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

"When I merge all of God's priorities into my life, he fulfills me."

"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." Matthew 6:33 (NLT)



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Tremble

Early this spring, I noticed a doe and her two brand new fawns hanging in a sheltered corner of my yard. From that day forward, throughout the summer, I saw them regularly, each time bigger than before. I felt a bond form, like they were my own kids. So I was super excited to see them rush to my bird feeder the other day.... [Keep reading](#)

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