



Follow the Directions

The way I got started writing these monthly articles is interesting, at least to me. Allow me to share my story.

My personal nature is reflective. I spend much time listening to and exploring thoughts that come to me. Many of these thoughts are spiritual in nature. They focus on what life *might* look like from God's perspective—my life in particular.

It is amazing how thoughts come streaming into my consciousness when I allow my mind to be open to whatever presents itself—or as I prefer to believe—God puts there. When my mind becomes pregnant with spiritual thoughts, I want to shout from the mountain top the excitement I experience. So I write!

The Signal has provide me with an outlet for this flow of messages that come to me. In prayerful consultation with God, I always ask: “Which of these messages should I

share this time?" I never fail to get something that steers me.

This time the words of an old hymn surged forth. "*Take my life and let it be always only all for thee.*"

That single thought encapsulates the heart and core of spiritual growth. At the same time the words *always, only* and *all for thee* make this particular orientation to life sound ultimate, absolute and *over the edge*.

Are our lives to be lived totally for God, or do we get something for ourselves? That is a huge, huge question that must come front and center in any spiritual growth. Is my life to be lived for God or for myself?

The answer to that question is *yes*. It is a *both/and* not an *either/or* answer. The inspired message from God is that we get the most out of life for our-selves whenever we truly dedicate and commit our lives to the Holy One to be infused with His Grace and directed by His Will. It is that simple! That's the design.

It's the old story: *When all else fails, read the directions*. Who knows best how life is to be lived if not the one who designed it, created it and delivered it to us. The designer and manufacturer always write the directions whether it is for using new electronics, assembling a piece of furniture of living life itself. We are foolish to try to do it using our own guesswork or trial and error.

There is a right way to put life together! Follow the directions of the Creator. "*Take my life and let it be always, only all for thee.*" Try making that commitment; it will *wow* you.

