

# Living Life to the Fullest

Pastor Eddie Idefonso

How many of us hear these words and long to do just that—live life fully?

Few of us, if any, seek a "ho-hum" existence. Instead, we long to experience life in a grand way. We want to grow emotionally and mentally. We seek new ways to expand our vision and enjoy life at every turn.

God wants us to grow and be all that we can be. He created us for excellence. From His perspective there are no failures, just possibilities. No matter how many wrong turns we take, God knows how to redirect our lives and place us back on the right track. He is the God who extends opportunity after opportunity to us. In other words, He is the God of the second, third, fourth, and infinite chances.

## God's Love Brings Fulfillment

He is never disappointed with us because He is omniscient. He knows all about us. He knows what we have done in the past and what we will do in the future. The wondrous thing about God's love is that it never stops. He loves us the same today as He did yesterday, and His love for us will not change tomorrow. When we feel as though we have failed in life, **God comes to us and raises up a standard—a banner of hope in our behalf. (Isaiah 59:19)**

With this truth in mind, why do so many people end up living a less-than-productive life? The answer lies in our ability to accept and apply a crucial truth to our hearts: It is God's unconditional love that changes us and brings lasting fulfillment. Once we understand and accept that there is no greater love than the love of God, then we will be ready to take the first step toward living life to the fullest.

What are the goals you would love to achieve? What dream has God placed within your heart that you long to see become a reality? There is a way to live each day fulfilled—satisfied and blessed.

For many people, the words "**living life to the fullest**" immediately bring thoughts of achievement either of financial security or success in their jobs. Their quest for fulfillment has more to do with achieving than living the life God has given them to live. If the goals we strive to reach are not accomplished according to God's plan, we will sense the emptiness of our vanity.

## The Search for Fulfillment

Fulfillment in a material sense does not guarantee that the inner hunger that resides deep within our souls will be satisfied. This is because true fulfillment does not come as a result of owning a large home, driving a new car, or having money in the bank. True fulfillment comes as a result of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Some of the richest people in the world also are the loneliest. They use their money to travel and buy all that their hearts desire, but the search for true happiness continues. Many of them mistakenly believe that true fulfillment is a financial merger away. What they really need is a heart and soul merger with Jesus Christ.

Solomon wrote, **"I enlarged my works: I built houses for myself, I planted vineyards for myself; I made gardens and parks for myself and I planted in them all kinds of fruit trees; . . . I collected for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces . . . "Then I became great and increased more than all who preceded me in Jerusalem . . . All that my eyes desired I did not refuse them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure for my heart was pleased because of all my labor and this was my reward . . . Thus I considered all my activities which my hands had done and the labor which I had exerted, and behold all was vanity and striving after wind and there was no profit under the sun"** ([Ecclesiastes 2:4-11](#)).

In Deuteronomy, God gives us a spiritual principle to use as a compass for our lives. Are our hearts pointed toward God? Or are they focused on selfish desires? **"You shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may be well with you and that you may go in and possess the good land which the Lord swore to give . . ."** ([Deut. 6:18](#)).

"He will love you and bless you and multiply you," writes Moses. This is the result of obedience. Though this principle was given to Israel, it also is a command for us to heed. When we declare our love for the Lord and submit our lives to Him, He will bless, guide, and bring a sense of sincere fulfillment to our hearts.

## The Steps to Fulfillment

Fulfillment is the result of the presence of God living within you through the power of the Holy Spirit. All that you do in life should reflect His goodness and mercy. How do you reach a point of true fulfillment? Fulfillment comes when you—

- **Realize that fulfillment is not a matter of position or authority.** It is a matter of loving God and allowing Him to love you. All you need to feel fulfilled is Jesus Christ living within you. Actually, as a Christian, you have both authority and position. You are God's beloved child—an heir to His throne. There is no higher calling than this, and there is no greater position than the place you hold in His family.

What do you do if life has lost its sense of excitement or you no longer have a sense of hopeful anticipation for tomorrow? You need to realize that you do not have to settle for less. You can be fulfilled right now.

- **Enter into a life of fullness by accepting Christ as your Savior.** There is no way to experience true fulfillment apart from Jesus Christ. Many have tried but they are left feeling empty and alone. Before His death, Jesus assured **His disciples that He would never leave them.** ([John 14:18](#)) He didn't.

Three days after the Crucifixion, He arose from the grave. Today He lives within those who pray this simple prayer: "Lord Jesus, I confess that I need You. I have sinned and my life feels empty and without hope. I know You are the hope of all men and women. I pray that You will forgive my sin and give me a fresh opportunity to live my life for You. I long to live life to the fullest, and I realize that this begins as I submit my life to You. I ask You to save me and give me a new life."

There is only one door you can walk through in order to experience life at its fullest and that is the door that leads you to Christ and straight into the heart of God.

- **Exchange your life and desires for the life of Christ and the desires that He has for you.** Your life was designed for God.

**Even before we knew Him personally, He knew us intimately. His plans for us are ones of hope and future. ([Jeremiah 29:11](#))** When we offer ourselves to God, we exchange our thoughts, feelings, emotions, and desires for new ones. Faith is the only way we can do this. By faith we believe that God is who He says He is and that He will do exactly what He has promised us. We can reach our goals, overcome our failures, and enjoy success, but for a different reason. Instead of boasting about what we have achieved, we can enjoy what God has given abundantly. Our lives become reflections of His life and love rather than a check sheet of human achievements.

- **Submit yourself to God. Fulfillment comes when you decide to love God and give Him all of yourself.** This does not mean that you give up or stop doing what you have been trained to do. Instead, you come to a point where you ask God to use you to the fullest so that others will come to know Him and experience His love and unconditional forgiveness.

He has given each one of us a spiritual gift to be used for His glory and work. Just as we have talents, we have gifts, and God wants us to discover the ones He has given us. When we pray and ask God to reveal His desire for us in this area, He will do it. (**[Read 1 Corinthians 12.](#)**)

**It is impossible to live life to the fullest until you have surrendered your life to Christ.** Those who have never discovered the wondrous joy that comes from living and serving God are the ones who have yet to experience His eternal fulfillment.

He has a great desire for you—a life that is exceptional because He is, in every way, glorious and willing to teach you how to live above your circumstances and to your full potential when you trust and seek only Him.