

Only One Life to Live

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School of Prayer

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I am very grateful to God in his mercy on me in allowing me to come back to your country and especially to this particularly church building. I am very grateful and I don't have words that are fitting to thank you enough for allowing me to come back and I have no words fitting enough to thank our dear brother Denny and his dear wife and family for loving us and trusting us so often and opening so much of your country to this very unworthy man. But I do bless God for them and for all of you and thank you so much for letting my wife and my son be with me.

I haven't been with them most of this year. For some reason this year has particularly separated us and you would be ashamed of me if I were to tell you much time we were actually together as a family. But we didn't plan it all together that way. But I do remember when I was thinking of the finer details of coming here how I did say, "Lord, it would have been so nice for Jenny and Samuel just this year to have come because we have been so much separated." And it was so lovely that that day our brother Denny said that Jenny must come with Samuel and he didn't know it how I was on my face before God after that phone call to thank him for his tender mercy and love.

I think it was Livingstone, the great godly, holy David Livingstone that said, "No, nothing we have done or could ever do could be termed a sacrifice when you look at what Jesus did on the cross for us."

And I agree with all my heart and nothing we have ever done is a sacrifice. But I do know this, he makes up in a billion ways that one would never dare to say of how the hand of God comes in the most amazing way to honor you if you are willing to serve him. And though all hell comes against you, you are always conscious every step of the way, Christ is right beside you and what more do we want and in love and tenderness.

I doubt that there is a man alive on this earth that God has been so tender with and so good to as me. I will be stunned if God would show me any other man in heaven that in my lifetime—and I say this from my heart—I will be staggered and I love him for that and I thank him for such people as you. I honestly thank you for coming here tonight and for loving God enough and his Word as to be willing to come to hear a very base and weak and despised man as me. I honestly thank you for that.

Oh God in mercy on me wash me now deeply in the blood of Jesus thy Son. I have no right to preach this holy book apart from the blood cleansing me. I have nothing to commend, nothing to point to to give me the right to preach outside of the blood of Jesus

my Savior. I want nothing but the blood to show thee God. And I ask thee to wash me now and fill me with the Holy Spirit that in weakness thy strength may be made perfect. For thou dost choose the weak and the base and the despised into the world deliberately that no flesh could glory in thy presence. And we are wondered at thy wisdom, Lord, in choosing such base men. But we agree, Lord, no flesh dare glory in thy presence. Come in mercy on me. Have mercy on all of us for this night is nothing but sacrilege if God himself does not come in grace and mercy. We have nothing even in ourselves to change ourselves outside of the grace and the love of God and just the willingness to want God to have his way. Thou can work. Oh God, make us willing. Take down into the hearts of every man, woman and child here tonight every prejudice, every fear, every doubt, every work of the devil to harden the heart, to close the mind. Wipe it away by the power of the risen, resurrected Christ and the Holy Spirit. And protect us now under the blood of Christ from our only enemy the devil. Come now visit us through thy Word, thy Holy Word. Turn our lives, God, turn every life, God, to something they have never been before. No man can do that, especially the weakest and the basest as I. But God can and, in faith because of the motions of our heart that that art looking at, answer this prayer above that we are asking for believing in Jesus the Christ's name. Amen.

In the holy book there is words Christ said in John chapter 12 that are very staggering if one takes every word God has uttered as vital necessity for you and I to walk with him. He says in chapter 12 of John in verse 23, "Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified."¹

He is speaking here now about himself, the reason he came from all his glory to become a man. This moment now has arrived. "The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified."²

You see, he was about to face Calvary and die for all flesh, for all men. He tasted death or every man. Don't ever doubt it.

"The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified."³

And then he says a strange thing concerning his death that he was speaking about. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it."⁴

Oh, what a tragedy that you could do that.

"And he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me."⁵

¹ John 12:23.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ John 12:24-25.

⁵ John 12:25-26.

Amazing words here. “Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.”⁶

Can I ask at the outset of this sermon, please, what could make a man desperately seek God? What could make a man desperately seek God for vital reality in Christianity before he dies? This one profound statement caused me to seek God in such a way. Only one life to live. It will soon be past. Only what is done for Christ will last.

I never recovered from that moment when I read those words on a wall in a building. After having laid that statement before you I would like us now very, very carefully and prayerfully to look again at these verses Christ said.

Verse 24, “Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone.”⁷ It just remains one corn of wheat. That is all it is. “But if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.”⁸

Now in its context it initially speaks of Christ’s death that would result in the salvation of millions. This is what he is saying as he says these words. In its context it initially speaks of Christ’s death that would result in the salvation of millions. But, beloved, it also applies in principle in its context to us who would follow Christ. And he is so careful when he speaks now as he is about to face death, to throw death upon us who he saves for thought.

The whole principle is returned to you and I not just to tell them he is about to face death and what would happen, the millions and millions and millions that would be reached if one died. He turns to us as the same principle in its concept. And he staggers you and me. Almost in the same breath Christ goes on and he looks to you and I now concerning this principle of what he had to do to bring forth fruit that would stagger the powers of hell and the world for eternity.

You see, the next verse is not about him.

“He that loveth his life,” he says, “shall lose it.”⁹

Oh, my.

You want to hold on to your rights and to everything that you have in life and can hold on to and will waste everything God could ever have done to you. You have a choice though you are saved.

He that hateth his life, oh, gives up the right, has no rights, demands no rights, expects no rights. Oh, he shall keep it unto eternal life.

⁶ John 12:24.

⁷ John 12:24.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ John 12:25.

To lose our lives not physically, but to lay down our lives no matter what it costs us in such a way for God to be able to bring forth fruit through us while we live, to lose our lives not physically, but to lay down our life no matter what the cost in such a way as for God to bring forth much fruit through us while we live in this little moment called life.

I am writing books. One book that I one day hope God will let me publish *This Moment Called Life*. It is all you have got. It is gone in one moment, friend. For God's sake, don't hold on to it. You never have another moment called life. It is almost gone before it is started.

Beloved, I have come to believe with all my heart that in Christianity a life of fruitfulness is born through a moment of death. Can I repeat that? I have come to believe with all my heart that in Christianity a life of fruitfulness is born through a moment of death. I have come to believe that a Christian must have a personal Calvary to find vital reality with God and to ever be greatly used by God. There are only two types of Christians. You will never find three. Don't look for them. You will only find two types of Christians, beloved, those who have had a personal Calvary and those who have not. And within moments you know which group they belong to. You cannot, cannot hide the man who has had a personal Calvary.

My son Samuel who is here with us tonight at the beginning of this year he was 11 years old. And he came through on this farm, his grandpa's farm where we have our annual leave. I won't tell you how many days I managed to find, but I was there for those few days and I was alone with Jesus and Samuel opened the door waiting to see if I would beckon him to come in. He had his Bible in his hand and I said, "Come in."

So he came and stood and looked at me with his Bible in hand and said, "Daddy, do you want to know how to be able to win many, many, many people to Christ?"

So I looked at him and I said, "Yes, I would."

He said, "Then listen to this. Preach this and many, many people will come to Christ."

And he took what he had been doing obviously in his devotions along with Jesus in the other bedroom, marked passages where he had little pieces of paper and he began to read these little verses and that little passage all linking up, comparing Scripture with Scripture. And eventually his train of thought leading up to how to make people seek God and go through with God and get saved what they must do, stepping how God will assure them, giving them the witness that they are saved if they do that, then he ended, closed the Bible and said, "Now, do that, Daddy, and you will win many to Christ."

And I said, "Thank you."

I was quite stunned. I looked at him and I said, "Samuel, it looks to me like you are going to be a preacher also."

And he said, “No, Daddy, I am not. I don’t want to be a preacher. I want to be a prayer warrior. I want to be able to be someone before I die that can go on his knees and ask God concerning souls to be saved. And whenever I pray God will immediately answer that prayer, whatever I cry out to God, that God would answer that prayer immediately. I want that, Daddy. Far more could be done to win souls if I was a prayer warrior in truth, Daddy, than if I was a preacher.”

Well, I looked at him feeling quite rebuked and I tried to justify myself and I said, “Well, Samuel, you can’t be a preacher of any worth unless you are prayer warrior first. To the degree that your life is soaked and consumed in prayer, to that degree only will you be anointed by God when you preach. To the degree that your life is consumed in prayer, to that degree only as you pray will God anoint your ministry.”

Forgive me.

Tragically, beloved, most Christians in this world will never ever be able to testify that God answered their prayers immediately before they die, ever. Now that is tragic. Most Christians will never be able to testify that God answered their prayers immediately before they die. Do you see? Such fruit is born through vital reality with God, only. There is no such a promise in the Bible of answering any prayer you have ever prayed or ever will pray in your life without a condition. And I could give you 30 minutes to an hour of the Scripture upon Scripture of those promises with the Kennisons.

Such fruit as my son said is the thing needed more than preachers, a life like that. It is born, it is born only through vital reality with God.

1 John three verse 20.

For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.¹⁰

That is fruit, beloved, as my saw is the greater need. It is born only through vital reality with God and you will not find one verse in the entire Bible that will disagree with that in its context concerning prayer being answered.

A number of years ago I was in this building at your Bible school. A young man was in the meeting who God began to smite him with such conviction of the grief he was to God, though he was saved.

I want to repeat that. Being saved doesn’t make you a joy to God, sir. You can grieve the Spirit. You can quench.

¹⁰ 1 John 3:20-22.

This boy was so smitten by the Holy Ghost as he sat in meeting upon meeting though that week of Bible school that I will never cease to thank God for eternity. Do you trust me with that?

He went home grieving, no joy, grieving. His parent, his family saw this boy was in a terrible state of grief and sorrow, smitten by God the Holy Ghost. And they heard him that night sobbing. The father said, "I couldn't sleep, Keith. I listened to that boy crying, 'Oh, God, oh God, oh God...'"

And the father wept listening to his son groaning before God in desperation about his condition though he was saved, the consciousness suddenly of the grief he was to God. And this went on until the house came to a hush listening, a hush watching him, try to survive through the day when all he wanted to be alone with God.

His mother said the little waste bin was filled with these little tissues wet through as he had sobbed through the night, sobbing for God in desperation about his condition, though he was saved.

One morning he came out and everyone looked again, but this boy came out with a glow on his face and he said words that made heaven rejoice louder than you and I can shout hallelujah, brother. Don't doubt it.

"Father and mother, I have surrendered my all to God. I am absolutely surrendered to God. My life is laid fully on the altar of God."

His life was so changed that that house was shaken into silence. He was so transformed, that home was in a staggered, stunned silence at how God could so transform a man who sought him like that and would not let him go till he found what he wanted, God having his way.

But then the dear father who was driving me from the airport to preach, a man you all know and love and I have come to love. He said, "The table, at family prayers at the devotions, the son asked that night, 'Why is it that our family never comes near us? Our grandfather and grandmamma? How is it that the cousins, the uncles, the aunties so many have never come? They want nothing to do with us? Why is it? They have never come to the house of God to hear daddy preaching?'"

The father said carefully how they had been ostracized and thrown out and forbidden to make contact with the others when they had got saved because his parent and his mother parents were deeply religious but in such darkness and there was no fear for them coming to live because when you are in religion how do you say you are wrong? It is a billion times harder for a man to come to light and to God than for a drunk who has no altar.

Oh, the father looked and said, "When we came to Christ we were forbidden to make contact and they keep us at bay. That is why."

This boy, for the first time, he had heard things, but for the first time tears came down his face at the consciousness of this and he said, "But surely there must be something that we can do. There must be something to get them to come to the house of God just once to hear the truth being preached before they go to hell. There must be something God can do."

And he prayed. If I can remember rightly the father said no one really could pray after that prayer as he wept the way he had never wept before praying.

"Oh God, it doesn't matter what the cost. I would be willing for anything. I would be willing to do anything God if thou would just be able to bring them all to the house of God to hear the gospel being preached in truth just once before they all die and go to hell, God. It doesn't matter what the cost, God, answer this prayer."

That boy was in a car days later with his two brothers sitting in the front and he was in the back in the car and the car lost control and went down and down and down and the brothers were alive in the front, but they turned, this boy was dead.

If I am right, I remember they had a cell phone and somehow contacted the mommy and the daddy who were driving the opposite direction and told them, he said, and his mommy pulled off the road weeping. And they said, "Wait, mommy. Isn't God good? Isn't God good that he so met with this boy before he took him? He was so right with God."

And they began to thank God and worship him for his goodness. That is godliness.

But then the father said to me, "The day of the funeral came, Keith, and I was preparing in the church." I think his brother Roman was to give the sermon itself, but the father was the minister of that church, the pastor. And he was preparing the things as the people were streaming in and streaming in and he looked up and he was shaken as he suddenly saw his father and his mother coming through the door and his brothers and sisters and their husbands and the children, the cousins. Every single relative on earth to that family walked thought that door into that church days after that boy had prayed that prayer.

And that father broke at the consciousness of God's faithfulness to a boy praying when he is right with God.

Listen, beloved, listen carefully. God will resort to anything to answer the prayer immediately, fully of any man who has vital reality with him. I want to repeat that carefully. There is nothing God will not resort to to immediately, fully answer any prayer any many who has vital reality with him prays. That boy had found vital reality with God in the first prayer he really cried out to God. The only way God knew to answer that prayer fully and immediately in integrity and obligation to answer that prayer toward his promises toward to that boy was to do what he did. And God will resort to anything to not fail his Word or the person who fulfills the condition to answer anything.

“Whatsoever we ask, we receive of him because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.”¹¹

Oh, beloved, John Knox, he cried words that the Church will never recover from. “Give me Scotland or I die.”

Now I want you to think about that. God gave him Scotland when he prayed that prayer. God gave him a land because God knew that man would die. No sacrifice was too great to him for God to answer his prayer.

Have you ever prayed like that in your life for anyone in compassion let alone for a nation?

Moses cried out, “Blot me out of thy book, eternally.” Think of it. Wipe me out, but save this people that God was about to destroy. No sacrifice was too great for Moses, for God to answer that prayer. Don’t have to answer it.

Paul cried out, “I would wish myself cursed of God, accursed of Christ, not just to be blotted out, but cursed by Christ.” He had such compassion who it seemed couldn’t be reached for his own people. Oh, but that Israel could be saved. I could wish myself cursed of Christ.

Do you know the gravity of the meaningless of peace? He had no regard in eternity for his own soul when it came to if God would just answer that prayer.

Have you ever come near the [?] standard, the capacity of the depth of what God would want a man or a woman to pray?

Does life make you unable to pray anything for anyone in a way that could move heaven, to stagger this world?

Here was a heart of Christ, beloved. When men prayed in such a way that God saw they were willing to die here was the heart of Christ, beloved. When men prayed in such a way that God saw they were willing to die that others may live. Have you ever, will you ever, ever, ever pray like that before you die having held on to life, not willing for any real sacrifice that would make you lose anything life really held out to you?

When I heard that boy’s testimony from his father who is a godly preacher I thought of these words as I sat looking at this father driving, listening. I thought of these words.

“And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”¹²

God said that. There is no other way to find vital reality with God outside of that. I want to ask each one of you here tonight: When will you seek God with all your heart? When

¹¹ 1 John 3:22.

¹² Jeremiah 29:13.

will you seek God in the way that you will find vital reality that will stagger this world beginning in your home? When will you lay down everything in life, brother, sister, to find a true walk with God that will bring forth fruit every step you take, every prayer you pray? When will you become desperate? When will you become so desperate that you will not seek, you will not cease to see God like that boy until you find him? I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. Unless you have your full way, oh God, I will not let thee go. When will you like Jacob have a personal Calvary?

Oh, what will you have been for the world, Jacob, if there had not been a Penuel where you died to self and would not let God go until he had his full work done in your heart?

Then stop fighting.

A crucified man is not evidenced by forsaking all and going to the mission field. I want you to listen carefully. That is not a crucified man. A crucified man is not evidenced by forsaking all and going to the mission field.

We had a young boy when I was first a preacher coming to the youth conventions and he had this desire to always serve God, to go out as a missionary, to preach. He grew up. He went out. He came into our mission and God used him. But he had this longing to go further into deeper Africa where it wasn't so westernized and he said so gospelized where there were few workers, not all these churches everywhere preaching the gospel, a privilege in this country that I want to go where there is... he had this...

And I said to him one day as he was having it more and more in his heart and determined to learn the language of the land and determined to start deputation work, to get supporters though the mission he was going to go with. I said to him, "Are you sure this is God? The need is not the call."

You must be called by God. You must know you are in the center of the will of God or you cannot blame God [?] to you.

If you go the need is not the call.

He looked at me for a while before he answered and that hesitation made me tremble. Eventually after all the preparation and the sacrifice and everything he, his wife, his little children went to this land, very third world and cut off this mission sent them to a place where they were really cut off, where no missionaries had been for a long, long time. And the rains came. The weather came. Oh, and disease came and the radio couldn't reach anybody and their child got this sickness and they tried to get in this van and the van couldn't go in all the water and so they walked. And the child died in their arms.

And then while trying to bury the child, the husband, the same disease gained hold of him and this woman dragging him, pulling him, weeping though the rain and mud and the slough eventually some native said they found them and took them and somehow radio contact was made, helicopters and they were somehow he survived and she. Ron got this

thing. Oh, his child dead, he nearly died. He just somehow scraped through and they got him back though they doubted he could ever live he was in such a state when he got there, when he got through.

He came to see me and my wife and he said, "I am going back. The devil is not keeping me from the will of God no matter what he has done.

And I said, "No, you are not going back. You are not going back. Unless God writes on the wall with his finger, go, don't dare go."

The need is not the call. God doesn't do that. Be careful. The need is not the call to go, but the need is the call to pray. If you never ever remember a word this man has ever said in this nation in your life, please just remember this. Christian, the need is not the call to go, but the need is the call to pray. The need is the call to pray.

It was a missionary family from America and a man wrote to me a little while ago about a year ago and he said, "In our church this family stood in the front of the prayer meeting and said, 'We are going, but you must pray. We will not survive without your prayers. We will be destroyed without your prayers. You are staying we are going. You must pray.'"

He begged us.

I think he says it was two years later, Keith, this man came back and it was this last week, I think, when he was writing. HE said this church was staggered at the end of the prayer meeting. A very weak sickly man staggered up in the front of the meeting and he said these words. "I am dying. My wife is dead. All my children are dead. I am dying, but I managed to get back and I asked God to let me live to get to this meeting and I waited. You didn't know I was here. I waited to see if anyone had prayed for us, anyone, just one word. No one prayed for us.

"You failed. That is why we were destroyed, he said. "We went, but you forgot to pray for us in truth as you ought to have."

The need is not the call to go, but the need is the call to pray. The call for prayer warriors is a far greater need than the call for preachers. Can I repeat that? The call for prayer warriors is a far greater need than the call of preachers because no preacher will survive without the prayer warriors. Oh, for crucified lives that will go to their knees for missionaries to survive and not to return devastated. Oh, for crucified lives that will go to their knees for missionaries to survive and not to return devastated. Only a crucified life will be willing to spend their life consumed by prayer like [?]. Only a crucified life will be willing to spend their life consumed by prayer. But without them the world will stagger.

It is as they pray that the world is affected, the missionaries survive and advance and the souls are won, only as the church prays. But only the crucified lives in the church will

pray in a way that will keep the missions open and advancing and the souls being won around this world.

You wonder why so few are [?] at the world, because the Church has so few crucified lives consumed by prayer and the missionaries are far and fast between and [?] in every aspect of life. The ranks are so thin it is tragic. Is that the will of God? But it is because there are so few praying. Don't doubt that, beloved. Don't doubt that. A crucified life does not necessarily result in forsaking all to preach, but a crucified life does result in forsaking all that is not essential in life to pray in losing your life to be consumed in a life of prayer. We are all called, beloved, but can only fulfill that calling properly when we have had a personal Calvary. The priest who does not have to prove he is called by always being busy with things. He proves he is called by giving himself to prayer and to the ministry of the Word in that order.

The disciples cried out in despair, "We will give our... we will give ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the Word," in that order always.

But those who are not to preach prove they are fulfilling God's purposes for their lives by praying. And deeply conscious that it is as it is as vital a ministry as preaching for the preacher will die. The preacher will die disillusioned if they don't. They become deeply conscious that their ministry is as vital as any preacher that ever went and as costly. Do you honestly believe that if you stay home God expects [?] of the sacrifice from your life for the world than the missionary who forsakes his job, his work, his home, his family, his land? Do you honestly believe God is so unjust to single out some with that sacrifice and you are bypassed to live in such pleasures and hold on to all of life's luxuries and joys and know nothing of dying to self?

Do you honestly believe that is God's way, beloved?

The crucified preacher is nailed to the cross because of love for the lost. He loses his life to win the lost for Christ. He denies himself what others call their legal rights. He dies daily to things other people regard as the normal, legitimate rightful things that we have to have. This world is not his home. He sets his affection on things above, not on things on the earth. He lives to lay up for himself treasures in heaven. For him to live is Christ but to die is gain for his treasures are only in heaven, souls. He has no [?] if he is a preacher that his affection is attached to that will keep him from anything that God sends him to.

Don't doubt that, beloved. Only a man crucified of self who has had a personal Calvary will find himself able to spend his life denying himself of all else so that he can be consumed in a life of prayer. But without the [?] and the [?] the Church will stagger across the world. The mission field will become empty of workers, [?] of workers and those workers will battle to survive because there is no praying [?] left.

The prayer warrior who is called to pray, prays for the mission field. He sacrifices his life as much as the missionary who forsakes all to fulfill that calling. The prayer warrior is

the reason the mission field have workers. We do not send people to the field, God does. We pray for the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers. None of us can. Only God can truly call a man who will survive, who will truly be called of God, anointed of God, equipped by God and who will be fruitful. But God waits for us to pray.

Listen. In case you missed it, pray. God waits for that. Do you? As we ought, do you not think the world would be filled with ranks of missionaries who will survive and bring the world to Christ 10 times over in our life time if we had done our bit as we ought to have and not held on to life? [?] of Christ? Do you honestly think God stood back and let so many be unreached of his personal will?

I cannot blame God through doctrine and sit back and say I have no responsibility, not with the Bible I read.

The prayer warrior is the reason men will go to the mission field and the prayer warrior is the reason missionaries will stay in the mission field. Take the prayer warrior away and no missionary will survive. All go. That is God's order according to the book I have called the holy Bible.

This world, beloved, waits for Christians. This world, beloved, waits for Christians. This world, beloved, waits for Christians who like the seed will fall into the ground and die to become fruitful before they have physical death. This world is waiting for nothing else.

In case you are waiting for something else politically to happen, financially to happen, economically to happen before we do our things, this world, beloved, waits for one thing only, for Christians who like the seed will fall into the ground and die to be able to come... to bring forth much fruit. It is not only Christ's death, it is ours while we live.

David Livingstone said, "I will place no value on anything in this life that does not pertain to the kingdom of Christ."

Have you ever heard another man on earth utter such words? No wonder God had to use him and let the whole churches look on. I will place no value on anything in this life that does not pertain to the kingdom of Christ.

This is the language of the crucified Christian. Only one life to live. It will soon be passed. Only what is done for Christ will last. Every thing else will be forgotten in eternity.

When did you have a personal Calvary, child of God? When did you, like Jacob, give up the fight and cling to God desperately until he met with you to make you holy and not a grief to God and man as he was with all God had done in visions and dreams and trying to protect and honor him. All he was is a grief to God and man. Don't doubt it, until Penuel.

When will you have a personal Calvary?

I call on you with all of my heart to find that place now or very soon before this moment called life is gone. Come lay your life on the altar of God for God's sake and for the world's sake and for your own sake because you lose it if you can hold on to it any longer. You lose everything God could have done and would have done and waits to do, but will never force you to give it your all. And it will cost you all that you have. It will cost you all.

For your every priority will change, your ever value will change and your every minute will be redeemed when you do that. Do not waste it on folly, even legitimate folly.

Oh, come lay your life on the altar of God. Become the instrument of the revival the world waits for. Come lay your life on the altar of God and become the instrument of the revival the world waits for. Or get to heaven, just a corn of wheat alone, though you could have born much fruit if you had just been willing to lay your life on the altar of God in desperation and cling to him till he has his full way with all that is wrong with you.

Bow our heads please.

Father in mercy keep us under the blood of Jesus and meet with these people for Christ's sake in his name.

I want everyone sitting here tonight who would say, "God, I give up the fight tonight to my rights, my life. I let go of my life. I am saved. But I let go of life tonight that I might bring forth much fruit, that God may through me. I am willing for a personal Calvary. Oh God, by thy grace in the Holy Spirit work in the blood and my faith, work that in me tonight. I lay my life on the altar of God. I take my hands off my life and my rights. I let go of everything and I say, "God, no matter what the cross, I want fruit. Not my life, just fruit to a life that is willing to die to self and I am waiting for that tonight, God. I beg for it. I will not let thee go except thou dost have thy way fully in me, Lord, no matter what the cost."

I want those who desperately, desperately, desperately need to say that to God here tonight to say stand right now please. I know it will cost and you know it will cost. So be careful when you do it. All of those standing, come. Make your way past those who sit and come and stand in the front here, please.

All who are seated will you stand with me please and pray for those in the front here? For you have the right to pray for them. Your life gives you the right. All in the front, I know your custom is to go and pray through and that is right. And we are going to have nights here of seeking God. And I am going to let you do that, but tonight I want to ask you just to pray these words with me aloud. Will you? Will we all bow our heads, please and pray from your heart?

Oh my God, forgive me for the wasted life, every moment that I wasted holding on to my life thou hast saved me from hell. Oh God, forgive me for the grief I have been to thee, for every compromise, every Word, every thing I have ever done or left undone that has grieved thee and was a rebuke to thee after that hadst saved my soul. Oh wash me in the blood from everything, things I have overlooked to confess and even forgotten. Wash me with the blood of Christ from every sin, every compromise, every grief I have ever given thee and let the blood go deeper. Wash me through and through and through and through. Create in me a clean heart, oh God, renew a right spirit within me. Then shall I teach transgressors thy ways and sinners shall be converted unto thee. But begin with me, God. Fill me with the Holy Spirit. Take control of me. Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moment and my days. Let them flow with ceaseless praise. I lay my life on the altar of God and I ask thee to make me an instrument of revival that this world is waiting for. On my knees let there be much fruit through what happens on my knees as I call on God for others no matter what it costs that God will answer my prayers immediately in Jesus Christ's name, for his sake and out of love for him alone I dare to ask this prayer of thee with my whole heart. Amen.

Now, beloved, I know I preach differently. Don't be offended. It is because I am base and weak. But my heart is true. I have nothing in me that wants to offend. Forgive me for my baseness. Pray for me for my desire that God would please just use this weak, base, despised man in spite of myself. Pray for that. For these nights I am here, pray for that. Pray with me that the hardest heart against this man because of his weakness and baseness... oh forgive me and come and let God bless you through that which burns in my soul for the Church of Christ and God will answer our prayers, you know. Please pray for that in faith when we are right with him.

We have Friday night and Saturday night and Sunday morning and Sunday night, four meetings. Oh let God have his full complete will and way in your life in these four meetings. Don't look to the man. Just pray for the man that God would take this base, weak man and do that in his grace and mercy and nothing less than that in his heart that you will never, ever recover till the day you die and that this world will be staggered from now on until the day you die.

Brother Denny, please come and commit us to Christ now.

When you have prayed, go and find people and beg them to come. Won't you do that?

Change of Voice:

Bow our heads yet.

[singing]

God and Father, Lord, we bring our hearts to you this evening. We thank you, Father, for this exercise before you. Lord, you know us. You know this congregation, Father. You know our needs. You know the prayers that we have prayed, not just me, Lord, all of us,

Father. You know the prayers we have prayed, Father, and you know our needs. We thank you for putting your finger on our needs tonight. Oh God, would you raise up a congregation of crucified Christians who pray, Lord, who agonize on their face like that dear Kaufman boy did? Oh God, what would happen if the whole congregation would be like that? Lord we bring our longing prayers before you tonight and we thank you for speaking to us. And, oh Father, we pray that you will continue to speak to us. We pray, oh God, we give you the right, we give you the freedom, Father, just get the plow out and plow down through our hearts. We don't want to stay the way we are. We want to hear it, Lord. We want to hear it strong. We want to hear the truth. We want to hear it the way you would say it if you were here. And, God, we just commit our lives into your care as we go from this place tonight. Would you watch over every heart in the day tomorrow? Don't let them lose their way through the day tomorrow. God, we trust you for this and for the meeting tomorrow night. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

All right. You can go back to your seats. I think we'll do that. You can go back to your seats.

Only God can bring each one of us to those places where everything dies. Only God can do that, but God cannot take us where we do not want to go. He will not. It is against his nature. So we bring to God a willing heart this evening.

Say, "Lord, I am willing. You can take me wherever you want to take me."

That is my encouragement. Just leave that prayer upon your heart as you go through the evening, as you lay upon your bed tonight, as you go through the day tomorrow. Just remember, only God can bring you there. But he will not take you where you don't want to go. He just can't. So let's give him our all.

Are there any announcements before we dismiss the meeting tonight?

All right. Let's have a prayer and then we will dismiss. You can stand to your feet.

Father, we look to you again. You are our Father. We look to you to bless the further service. We are going to share. We are going to open our hearts to one another. We are going to admonish one another. We are going to confess our faults to one another and love one another. God bless the further service. Give us journeying mercy as we travel home and sanctify our day tomorrow with your presence. We trust you for that. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

God bless you. You are dismissed.