



THE SELF-LIFE vs. THE SURRENDERED-LIFE



"If we are abandoned to Jesus we have no ends of our own to serve."

Oswald Chambers

My Utmost for His Highest, Feb. 24

SELF-LIFE

CHARACTERIZED BY

The attempt to control one's life

Emotional/Spiritual bondage motivated by self-interest, self-protection and/or self-gratification

1. Focuses on self and unpleasant circumstances
2. May believe his life is controlled by the Holy Spirit because of outward obedience until testing comes
3. May have relinquished control to God in some areas, but still holds on to major area(s) of control in life
4. Refuses to accept God's plans for himself and/or others
5. Opposes & resists God's thinking
6. Clings to his own ideals, goals, and desires
7. Fears "letting go" and giving God control of future and/or consequences
8. Fears he will not be secure or fulfilled if control is relinquished
9. Lacks trust in God's goodness
10. Trusts self by trying to control people, circumstances, future
11. Loses hope because of focus on circumstances
12. Requires circumstances and/or people to satisfy and fulfill



Continual breaking of self-will



Ongoing acceptance of God's plan & His control over the future

SURRENDERED-LIFE

CHARACTERIZED BY

The control of the Holy Spirit

Emotional/Spiritual freedom motivated by genuine love for God and others

1. Focuses on God rather than on self and unpleasant circumstances
2. Obeys God when testing comes no matter what the cost
3. Relinquishes control over all areas of life
4. Accepts fully God's plans
5. Submits to God's thinking
6. Releases ideals, goals, and desires to God's sovereign plan
7. Confesses and commits fears to the Lord and obeys regardless of possible outcomes
8. Obeys God and experiences the abundant life regardless of circumstances
9. Finds peace in seeing God's goodness in all circumstances
10. Trusts in God's sovereign control over people, circumstances, future
11. Places hope in God sustaining him rather than in circumstances
12. Finds satisfaction and fulfillment in relationship with Christ