



Day One: The Wide Open, Spacious Life

Everything we've been looking at points to one incredible conclusion: There's glory contained within us and the world needs it to come out! It is time to...

Unlock the hidden gems lying dormant and unseen inside our hearts.

It is time to truly live out the life that has been hidden inside us all the time. And what kind of life is this? Oh, it's the life of unlimited measure. The Bible calls it the:

WIDE OPEN, SPACIOUS LIFE

2 Corinthians 6:23 (MSG) *I can't tell you how much I long for you to enter this wide-open, spacious life. We didn't fence you in. The smallness you feel comes from within you. Your lives aren't small, but you're living them in a small way...Open up your lives. Live openly and expansively.*

This is God's heart for us. He knows the kind of limitless life that has been planted within us and He longs for us to live it. The question is not whether or not that life is there. If we're in Christ, it is. The question - the deciding factor of the entire thing - is whether we *feel* small and limited or big and limitless.

Life seems very small when we can be contained and restrained by ourselves. But when we release Christ in us and arise in Him, our life becomes limitless.

If the smallness comes from within us, then the expansiveness also comes from within us. It's simply a choice to either identify with the identity of our old man or the identity of our new man – Christ within. It's just a choice. We live in the open and expansive life from the inside out, by choosing to believe it.

This is the life where all the shackles are thrown off. All things are possible...

"My life is big and I'm living it in a big way. The expansiveness I feel comes from within me."

Can we declare this as truth of ourselves today? We live a small life when we feel small. The smallness of our lives comes from within us. We live an expansive life when we feel expansive. The expansiveness of our lives comes from within us. We need to refuse the lie that there's humility in staying small. No there's not!!!!



As Faylene Sparks says, *"Your playing small does not serve the world."* When we feel small, we're looking at ourselves! It's humility to look at Jesus and that makes us feel expansive! And as a result, our lives become expansive! It's time to consider a new perspective:

"What if our life in Christ was about finding out what limitlessness is and then showing people." Danny Silk

What if it is? What if this is the adventure Christ has put before you? How far past your 'limits' have you been willing to go? Because while we perceive there to be limits in our lives, we're still looking at ourselves. But when we're finding out what limitless is, we're looking at the limitlessness of Christ and we're pushing continually past every 'limit' or 'restriction' we've ever known in and of ourselves in the past. Jim Richards says it the best:

"Spend your life expanding into the life of Christ."

When we do, we find ourselves in the midst of a wide open, spacious life! And the view is breathtaking...



Does the life you're living, feel small or expansive? Ask Holy Spirit why this is.

Can you make the declaration in this devotional? *"My life is big and I'm living it in a big way. The expansiveness I feel comes from within me."* How do you feel when you declare this of yourself?



Day Two: Now Arise

We can look at it a thousand different ways, but the essence is always the same. At any time, at any moment, any 'NOW', we can begin living this life. We can arise in His life and know the limitlessness and adventure of wide-open, spacious living.

NOW ARISE IN THE FULLNESS OF YOUR UNION WITH HIM

Philippians 4:1 (TPT) ...Now arise in the fullness of your union with our Lord.

We're either going to stay here in the shadows, afraid to look inside our hearts. Or we're going to say *'Yes! I'm going to the mountaintops with you! Your unfurled banner of victory is over my head and I'm marching with your heart as my heart and your victory as my victory and let's unfold this life together...'*

Sometimes, it just takes us walking in the courage of Jesus, which already lives within us. Do you know what the word 'courage' actually means? The literal rendering of this word is: *Tell the story of who you are with your whole heart.* Wow! Courage is holding nothing back in this storytelling! It's living the life Jesus has planted within you to the fullest, and as you do so, the story that has been written in heaven about your life, will be seen on the earth.

You are the hope of glory because of Christ who lives in you, and the world needs your story! After all, isn't that what history is made of? History is 'His-Story'... the story of His life manifested in the lives of believers throughout time. This world needs your story – your full and true, God-story.

Being yourself, and living your new, real life will be the most courageous journey you've ever taken! But it's going to be fun, full of adventure, and absolutely world-changing! It's not to be feared – it's to be highly anticipated!

Romans 8:15 - 17 (MSG) This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, grave-ending life. It's adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike "What's next, Papa?"

Imagine living like this every day of the rest of your life! Adventurously expectant, holding nothing back, and exciting beyond measure. You and Jesus – together – writing His-Story and changing the world!



Soak Time

Do you choose to live the resurrection, adventurously expectant life? Ask Holy Spirit to show you the next chapter in the book He has written for your life. Ask Him, *“What does the next chapter of my resurrection life look like?”*

What does it feel like to live adventurously expectantly? Does this change your outlook on your life, your attitude or your hopes? Will this cause you to relate to people differently, speak differently or do things differently?



Day Three: Leave Safe Behind

To embrace one thing, you have to let something else go. To embrace this adventurously expectant, resurrection, wide-open, spacious life, you have to let go of both control and fear. In Ezekiel, it talks about being in a river... we can either wade in ankle deep, knee deep, waist deep... where we still have an element of control and can turn and go back to the bank if we want to. But it takes courage to actually let go completely... to trust Him fully and to go in over our heads, where our feet lift off the ground and we're just flowing with Him wherever His river takes us. It's the place where, as the words of the Bethel Worship song *'In Over My Head'* say, *'I've lost control but I'm free!'*

This is the place where we are one with Him. We don't always know exactly where He's going to go, we don't always know what He's going to do next, but that's OK because we know that He loves us, He's trustworthy and He's good.

In the *Chronicles of Narnia*, it is asked about Aslan (who represents Christ). *"He's safe then?"* The answer is given:

"He is full of wildness and risk. He's not safe, but He's good."

This is the invitation to life that has been given to us. Do you want to live a safe life, small and in control? Or do you want to live a life of freedom, adventure, wildness and expansiveness?

As I was contemplating the choice I would need to make in my life, Holy Spirit said to me:

LEAVE SAFE BEHIND

He spoke to me out of the words of the Bethel song:

Further and further, my heart moves away from the shore. Whatever it looks like, whatever may come I am yours.

Then you crash over me

And I've lost control

BUT I'M FREE



I'm going under

I'm in over my head

The picture this paints is of wildness and risk and courage... yet on the other hand, I can think of no 'safer' place to be. One with Him, with Him, in Him, for Him... let the adventure begin!

Soak Time

Are you afraid of being one with the One Who is full of wildness and risk? Why or why not?

What do the Holy Spirit words, *Leave safe behind*, mean specifically to you?
