

November 13, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

2 Cor. 5:14-15 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him Who died for them and was raised again. (NIV)

What does the love of Christ compel you to do? Meditate on that for just a moment. First of all, we should look at this word compel. The Greek word is **sunechei** which means *to press together from every side so that it can be thrown*. This somewhat reminds me of a good snowball. If you have soft, powdery snow, it will not make a good snowball because it will crumble when you throw it from the pressure in your hand. Oh, but a nice wet snow will make some formidable balls (sometimes of ice) that will pierce through the air and land on their target. This is what the love of Christ does for us. It compels us. It keeps us bound together with Him and then used for the work that is given so that we will not miss the mark.

That work is for all who will believe and trust Him for their salvation. So, not only do we receive eternal life, but we also receive real and abundant life right now. And this life redirects our focus. Our life is not about us any longer, but about the One Who gives us life. He gives it so that we too can give it and share it. It is not just for our enjoyment, but so that we can allow others to see what this kind of life is like. In doing so, the Spirit draws others to Himself as they see that 'something different' inside of us. Here's a question for us to ponder today--will I live for the things of this world that will fade away, or will I truly live in the hands of the One Who made this day and gave it to me for His purpose?

Dear LORD, this life that You have given is all about You. You deserve every portion of our being. Help us to honor You completely. In Jesus Name, Amen