

# *40 Days of Prayer and Fasting*

October 9<sup>th</sup>

Daily Devotional #9

Today's devotional is part 2 of a paper I wrote for a graduate level course, "Spiritual Formation" I took at ACU in the Fall of 1995 (Yesterday I mistakenly pointed to "Christian Ministry" as the class for which this paper was written). It is in the closing section of this paper that gratitude makes its way into the idea, the "Life Rule", that Jesus is the Ultimate Value.

As you read and contemplate this devotional, please consider this was an assignment for each individual in class. So, as you read it, apply it to yourself and wrestle with the ideas for yourself. But, then, read it in context of the WH Family, apply and wrestle with it in that Family context as well. We want to be transformed for Kingdom Living. Living this Life Rule as a Family may be part of making that journey, that goal, more of a reality... *much love, Danny*

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## *When All Is Said and Done*

# **Jesus Is the Ultimate Value**

### *Part 2*

This rule of life, "Jesus Is the Ultimate Value", reminds me of Jesus' great faithfulness and love for me. It causes me to fall on my knees in tears, in gratitude and in humility. This rule reminds me that Jesus is the perfect paragon. He teaches me the right way to live, the holy way, the way that pleases God. It inspires me to live for Him, with Him, through Him. And even more importantly, it allows Him to live through me.

And so, I'll follow Him out of love, admiration and dedication. I'll serve Him because He is the Master of all life and He chose to serve. I'll praise Him because He is the morning song and He praised with His life. I'll love Him because He first loved me - faithfully, to the end. I'll love as He loved -- serving, giving, teaching, and forgiving -- because He is the living and perfect Parable. I'll worship Him with all my life because He is the Ultimate Value in this universe!

So now I ponder the future. What will this rule mean to me over the years? I pray that it continues to haunt me - and even more. My prayer is that I begin - over and over again - to live under this rule. I shall post it on my wall, in my room, on my heart. I commit to struggling against the darkness in search of it.

Will I ever live fully under this rule? Perhaps it is humanly impossible. All I know is that I will continue to struggle with this rule and its implications. I want to know

Christ - desperately. I want to value Him and follow Him and love Him far above all else.

I believe the point, or maybe, the “conclusion” of this rule, perhaps, is the fact that I will never truly attain it or fully comprehend it until that day - when I see Him face to face and He pulls me close and says to the Father, “Abba (Daddy), I’d like you to meet my friend, Danny.” And God smiles and says, “Oh, I know him well. He is your friend. He thinks very highly of You, Jesus. Well done, Danny. Well done.” Then, of course, I’ll start bawling and fall to my knees in amazement, joy, release, gratitude, shame, shock and surrender. And, I’ll know what this rule really meant. And I’ll know that I’m Home.

Jesus is the Ultimate Value.

I cannot get away from it.

I do not want to get away from it.

He is my reason for living.