

# How To Be Used By God



“How can I make my life count for Jesus Christ?” Ken asked me one day. Ken was a new Christian and wanted his life to make a spiritual difference in this world. His desire was normal. Every Christian wants to be used by God to accomplish the purposes that He has for them during their lives. How can we know that God will use us? The answer rests in understanding three important principles for life.

### We Must Know Who God Is

If God is to use your life for His glory, it is important to have a proper concept of who He is. Many people misunderstand the character of God, seeing Him as a demanding and harsh Deity who is impatient with our shortcomings and insists that we improve our behavior. However, the Bible teaches that God is a loving God, that He is patient and compassionate. He *wants* to gently teach you how to trust Him so that He can bless you and use you to

bless others. (See Psalms 48:14; Psalms 57:10) God loves you and is anxious to do whatever is necessary in your life to cause your life to be filled with His blessings.

### We Must Know Who We Are

Understanding our identity in Christ is a vital key in being used by God. Empty religion insists that we work for God, but authentic Christianity *inspires* us to live a godly lifestyle. When we know who we are, we can simply *be ourselves* and we will discover that Christ will express His life and love through us to others in profound ways. (See Ephesians 2:10; I Corinthians 3: 16—17 to learn more about who you are in Christ.)

### We Must Know How God Operates

The Bible teaches that the people through whom God can best work are those who realize their own weaknesses and limitations. (See 1 Corinthians 1:26-29) The world

values personal strength, but God delights in using people who recognize their need for complete dependence upon Him. The Apostle Paul once said that if he were going to boast, it would be about matters related to his weaknesses. (See 2 Corinthians 12:9).

Do you want God to use your life? It is His desire to work through you to impact lives and to spread His kingdom in this world. Perhaps the following prayer expresses the desire of your heart:

*Dear Father,  
I do want to be used by You. I submit myself to You now and ask You to teach me more about who You are, about who I am, and about how You operate. Thank you for the privilege of serving You in this world. Allow my life to make an eternal difference in people's lives. I am trusting You and asking You to use me for Your glory.*



Hi, I'm Steve McVey, President of Grace Walk Ministries, and we are thrilled that you have let us send you these proven, biblical principles that will help you restore the joy in your life as a Christian. Grace Walk is a teaching and training ministry which exists for the purpose of sharing the life of Jesus Christ with others. Our mission is to help Christians discover the freedom of their new life in Christ. To this end, we use conferences, mission trips, Bible studies, books, newsletters, CD and DVD Studies and my weekly Sunday Preaching message broadcast via our website. Again, thank you so much for this opportunity to serve you.

There's lots more in store at our web site. Be sure to visit us there at [www.gracewalk.org](http://www.gracewalk.org). We hope you'll drop by for a visit and that you'll tell a friend about us.

In Him,

*flip over for another article by Steve*

## Living In Love - by Steve McVey

It isn't enough to simply acknowledge intellectually that God loves you. To restrict God's love to the intellect alone will greatly limit our ability to enjoy Him. The raging fire of His love seeks to permeate your mind, your emotions, and your will. Then, having ravaged your soul, His love will leap from your life, through your actions, onto those around you, like a fire that jumps from one tree in the forest to another.

God wants you to both know and to feel His love. There seems to be an overemphasis in many circles, either by focusing on experiencing God through the mind to the exclusion of the emotions, or vice-versa. One group accuses the other of emotionalism while the second views the former as being either afraid or ignorant of the Holy Spirit. One may claim to be led by the Bible, while the other professes to be led by the Spirit, but neither extreme is a biblical position.

God wants His love to invade every part of our being. A balanced life is one in which we clearly understand His love intellectually, deeply experience His love emotionally and purposefully live out of His love volitionally. With life in balance, the written Word guides us objectively and the living Word within guides us subjectively.

From out of the center of His love, we are then able to live the carefree, abundant life that Jesus Christ came to give us. God wants you to enjoy life. He wants you to gulp it down by the gallon!

We have a powerful innate drive to drink deeply of life and, thus, of God — to come to the end of our lives saying that we've truly lived. That this urge belongs at the heart of a person's life makes the circle complete. Life is good!

There is, however, another side. While we long to live this way, most of us are actually terrified to do so. Confronted with the opportunity to dance with life, we cling to our inhibitions and fears and our little ways of skulking in the shadows of uninvolvedness. We may tap our toes, but we're firmly glued to our chairs. We aren't easily persuaded to get up and dance.

As I read Henry David Thoreau's, *Walden Pond*, I was struck by his desire to "suck the marrow from life." It described my own zest for living. What Thoreau thought he could find in nature, I knew could be found in Jesus Christ.

Imagine a life in which the fire of God so consumes you that you lose all inhibitions; a life in which you charge forth confidently into every day with the assurance that God will guarantee your success that day. This life isn't imaginary, it's real! When we live from the blazing glory of His love for us, that is the life we can live.

Tony Campolo once said in a speech, "Most of us are tiptoeing through life so we can reach death safely. We should be praying, 'If I should wake before I die.' Life can get away from you. Don't be satisfied with just pumping blood." There is an abundant life for the taking for those who have the assurance of God's unconditional love and commitment to us.



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