

**Lose Your Life to Find It**

## REMINDER

Squares with blue type are most important.

Ovals with black type are needed sense.

HE charged me, *Preach the word!*

Your life is a very special gift, which God gave to you without you asking for it or knowing it.

Since God created and saved you, He  
knows exactly what maximizes life,  
and He wants you to know it.

It is true ... Jesus taught a secret of the universe to maximize earthly life and get eternal life in the world to come.

You should want to have the best life  
possible for God, for others,  
and for yourself.  
Why not?

**Lose Your Life to Find It**

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**Understanding a Rule of Jesus  
to Maximize Life on Earth  
before Eternal Life**



## **It Is a Rule of Jesus**

1. He said it several times.
2. It is recorded in the Bible.
3. He had other rules like it.
4. He lived the rule perfectly.
5. Others also lived the rule.

There is little duplication in the slides that follow, showing how often Jesus gave this rule to those following Him.

He that findeth his life shall lose it:  
and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

Matthew 10:39

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it:  
and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

Matthew 16:25

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it;  
but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's,  
the same shall save it.

Mark 8:35

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it:  
but whosoever will lose his life for my sake,  
the same shall save it.

Luke 9:24

Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it;  
and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it.

Luke 17:33

He that loveth his life shall lose it;  
and he that hateth his life in this world  
shall keep it unto life eternal.

John 12:25



Let us take the verse with the simplest  
wording and then reduce it  
to three parts.

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it:  
but whosoever will lose his life for my sake,  
the same shall save it.

Luke 9:24

## **Jesus' Rule in Three Parts**

Save Your Life = Lose Your Life

Lose Your Life = Save Your Life

Rule Works if Done for the Lord

By comparing these example verses of Jesus' rule, let us pick one or two to help us define terms.

He that loveth his life shall lose it;  
and he that hateth his life in this world  
shall keep it unto life eternal.

John 12:25

Saving Your Life = Loving this Earthly Life

Losing Your Life = Hating this Earthly Life

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it;  
but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's,  
the same shall save it.

Mark 8:35



For My Sake = Cause of Christ and Gospel

How far does this fabulous reward of  
finding our earthly life extend?

**Into Eternity!**

He that loveth his life shall lose it;  
and he that hateth his life in this world  
shall keep it unto life eternal.

John 12:25

## **Pastor, Give Us the Sense (1)**

If you make Jesus more important than you in this life, He will bless you on earth and with eternal life.

## **Pastor, Give Us the Sense (2)**

If you give up the things everyone else fusses about to serve Jesus instead, He will bless you now and later.

## **Pastor, Give Us the Sense (3)**

If you sacrifice things your flesh wants to emphasize things the Spirit wants, it is win-win for you.

## **Pastor, Give Us the Sense (4)**

If you serve Jesus and His church with all your might and are content with little of other things, He will reward you double.

## **Pastor, Give Us the Sense (5)**

This rule is not about individual temptations but about lifestyle choices and priorities; it is about Moses rather than Joseph.



## **Pastor, Give Us the Sense (6)**

If you choose what you want in life, God will  
blow against you; if you choose what  
He wants, He will bless you.

Jesus perfectly explained His rule to Peter,  
when he tried to impress Jesus  
with his sacrifices.





THE

R  RICH

YOUNG RULER



Then Jesus beholding him loved him,  
and said unto him, One thing thou lackest:  
go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor,  
and thou shalt have treasure in heaven:  
and come, take up the cross, and follow me.  
And he was sad at that saying,  
and went away grieved:  
for he had great possessions.

Mark 10:21-22

## **The Rich Young Ruler Blew It Badly**

He “saved” his life by choosing money over Jesus.  
He was good many ways, but Jesus did not care.  
He could have been one of the Lord’s favorites.  
The Bible says that his choice caused him grief.  
He did not have Jesus’ approval or friendship.  
He had a guilty conscience the rest of his life.  
He could not fully enjoy his money or stuff.  
He died unhappy with two costly divorces.  
His best kids were lazy, carnal Christians.



**Save Your Life = Lose Your Life**

**Lose Your Life = Save Your Life**



**Do you fully understand the  
foolish choice this man made?**

He had money in the bank but was unhappy.

He never had God's approval in this life.

He got God's rebuke at Judgment.

His epitaph screams – *Loser!*

He wasted his life.

# STOP!

Almost every Christian makes this foolish choice  
... some with things more stupid than money ...  
it is a symptom of the perilous times.

And Jesus looked round about,  
and saith unto his disciples,  
How hardly shall they that have riches  
enter into the kingdom of God!

And the disciples were astonished at his words.  
But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them,  
Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches  
to enter into the kingdom of God!

Mark 10:23-24

Rich men, successful men, can get in  
anywhere, but they damn their  
souls by loving their money.

I Timothy 6:6-10

For you self-righteous listeners that would never love money so much, Jesus will condemn your personal idols.

It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle,  
than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

And they were astonished out of measure,  
saying among themselves,  
Who then can be saved?

And Jesus looking upon them saith,  
With men it is impossible, but not with God:  
for with God all things are possible.

Mark 10:25-27

The Bible tells of saved rich men, but they loved God and gave much of it away, and they were great exceptions.

**Job**

**Abraham**

**Moses**

**David**

**Zacchaeus**

**Jose (Barnabas)**

**Philemon**

**Gaius**

Then Peter began to say unto him,  
Lo, we have left all,  
and have followed thee.

Mark 10:28



You can give your testimony in the right situation, but never think or say you have done much for the Lord.

So likewise ye,  
when ye shall have done all those things  
which are commanded you, say,  
We are unprofitable servants:  
we have done that which was our duty to do.

Luke 17:10

Jesus' rule does not allow any pride on  
your part, for He repays win-win!

Here is Jesus' own commentary  
more fully explaining His basic  
rule of winning by losing!

Get Ready!

It is a Precious Jewel!

And Jesus answered and said,  
Verily I say unto you,  
There is no man that hath left  
**house,**  
**or brethren,**  
**or sisters,**  
**or father,**  
**or mother,**  
**or wife,**  
**or children,**  
**or lands,**  
for my sake, and the gospel's,

Mark 10:29

## **Remember Jesus' Rule!**

You do not lose by losing, you win by losing, so it is not a real loss, for He repays many times over.

So don't talk about it as your great deed!

*How do we best view the next verse?*



But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time,  
houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers,  
and children, and lands, with persecutions;  
and in the world to come eternal life.

Mark 10:30

But he shall receive an hundredfold  
now in this time,  
houses,  
and brethren,  
and sisters,  
and mothers,  
and children,  
and lands,  
with persecutions;  
and in the world to come eternal life.

Mark 10:30

**But he shall receive an hundredfold**  
**now in this time,**  
houses,  
and brethren,  
and sisters,  
and mothers,  
and children,  
and lands,  
with persecutions;  
**and in the world to come eternal life.**

Mark 10:30

*How do we best view this verse?*

*It perfectly explains Jesus' rule.*

He that findeth his life shall lose it:  
and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

Matthew 10:39

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it:  
and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

Matthew 16:25

The rich young ruler thought he had found the good life, but he lost his life in many different ways and then Judgment.

But Joses (Barnabas) who had the good life  
sold his real estate holdings in Cyprus and  
found a far better life serving the Christ.



He that loveth his life shall lose it;  
and he that hateth his life in this world  
shall keep it unto life eternal.

John 12:25

Not only does sacrificing things in this world bring blessings now, but it also brings eternal heaven.

Another example,  
but now of a rich, successful man  
very much unlike the rich young ruler!







**Moses followed Jesus' rule perfectly!**

## **Moses had it all ... What a stud!**

Exceptional physicality from birth (Ex 2:2).  
Adopted by Pharaoh's daughter (Ex 2:10).  
Honored as person of Pharaoh's house.  
Raised and trained by best of the best.  
High achiever academically in Egypt.  
Mighty in words and in deeds.  
He had best life and future.

In which time Moses was born, and was exceeding fair,  
and nourished up in his father's house three months:

And when he was cast out,

Pharaoh's daughter took him up,  
and nourished him for her own son.

And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians,  
and was mighty in words and in deeds.

Acts 7:22-24



**Moses had it all ... and he flushed it all!**

By faith Moses, when he was come to years,  
refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;  
Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God,  
than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;  
Esteeming the reproach of Christ  
greater riches than the treasures in Egypt:  
for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

Hebrews 11:24-26

## **How did Moses lose his life?**

He made his decision by faith, not feelings.  
He was fully forty and chose very objectively.  
He flushed his position in Pharaoh's household.  
He gave away Egypt's pleasures for affliction.  
He chose an unpopular church over Egypt.  
He gave up rich treasures for reproach.  
He knew God's reward was better.

By faith Moses, when he was come to years,  
refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;  
Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God,  
than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;  
Esteeming the reproach of Christ  
greater riches than the treasures in Egypt:  
for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

Hebrews 11:24-26

## **Remember the Rich Young Ruler's Life**

He had money in the bank but was unhappy.

He never got God's approval in this life.

He got God's rebuke at Judgment.

His epitaph screams – *Loser!*

He wasted his life.

## Compare the Life of Moses

He met Jehovah I AM THAT I AM on the job.  
He knew God face to face and worship details.  
He was the greatest church leader of all the O.T.  
He wrote the first five books opening the Bible.  
He was one of God's five favorite intercessors.  
He is in the Hall of Faith for his great exploits.  
God buried him ... He is compared to Jesus.  
His epitaph screams – *Winner!*  
He found his life.

**Let's Listen to Jesus Explain His Rule**

No man can serve two masters:  
for either he will hate the one, and love the other;  
or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.

Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life,  
what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink;  
nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on.

Is not the life more than meat,  
and the body than raiment?

Matthew 6:24-25



But seek ye first the kingdom of God,  
and his righteousness;  
and all these things shall be added unto you.  
Take therefore no thought for the morrow:  
for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself.  
Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Matthew 6:33-34

And another of his disciples said unto him,  
Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.  
But Jesus said unto him, Follow me;  
and let the dead bury their dead.

Matthew 8:21-22

Again, the kingdom of heaven  
is like unto treasure hid in a field;  
the which when a man hath found, he hideth,  
and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath,  
and buyeth that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man,  
seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of  
great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

Matthew 13:44-46

For what is a man profited,  
if he shall gain the whole world,  
and lose his own soul?  
or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Matthew 16:26

But many that are first shall be last;  
and the last first.

Mark 10:31

And he said to them all,  
If any man will come after me,  
let him deny himself,  
and take up his cross daily,  
and follow me.

Luke 9:23

Then said he unto him,  
A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:  
And sent his servant at supper time to say to them  
that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.  
And they all with one consent began to make excuse.  
The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground,  
and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.  
And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen,  
and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.  
And another said, I have married a wife,  
and therefore I cannot come.

Luke 14:16-20

And there went great multitudes with him:  
and he turned, and said unto them,  
If any man come to me,  
and hate not his father,  
and mother, and wife,  
and children, and brethren,  
and sisters, yea,  
and his own life also,  
he cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:25-26



So likewise,  
whosoever he be of you  
that forsaketh not all that he hath,  
he cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:33

Remember Lot's wife.

Luke 17:32

**Can we explain the rule different ways?**

## **Our Description of the Rule (1)**

Holding on to this earthly life  
will cost you true joy now  
and eternal life to come.

## **Our Description of the Rule (2)**

It is a shame to watch some men  
and women hug themselves  
to death in this earthly life.

## **Our Description of the Rule (3)**

Some presume fatalistically on eternal life, but the truly saved will live sacrificially.

## **Our Description of the Rule (4)**

The sovereignty of God, election and predestination, cannot comfort selfish lives.

## **Our Description of the Rule (5)**

Pursuit of pleasure in this life is like Esau selling his birthright for a mess of pottage.



## **Our Description of the Rule (6)**

Abraham lost his life to find a much better one;  
Lot found his life and totally ruined everything.

## **Our Description of the Rule (7)**

We do not baptize children, because they cannot grasp this or other rules of real discipleship, which we often summarize as ARS.

## **Our Description of the Rule (7)**

Jesus gives 10,000% more fulfillment in this life for any earthly things you forsake for Him, even though you sacrifice only crumbs.

## **Our Description of the Rule (8)**

God adds on eternal life  
to your 10,000% life here for  
you sacrificing a few soap bubbles.

## **Our Description of the Rule (9)**

Without a doubt, the happiest people are the ones that live all-out for the Lord, and the saddest people are those that cheat Him.

## **Our Description of the Rule (10)**

If you choose to protect your little life, you will be unfulfilled and frustrated, for a born again soul is dissatisfied with even the world's best.

## **Our Description of the Rule (11)**

If you choose to protect your little life, you will waste your life – success of fruit, souls, and praise will dissipate into nothing notable.

## **Our Description of the Rule (12)**

If you choose to protect your little life, you will likely be found wanting on Judgment Day and then sent down with the devils.



## **Our Description of the Rule (13)**

Man at his best state in this world is altogether vanity and lighter than vanity, so you must do something weighty to even measure.

## **Our Description of the Rule (14)**

Following Jesus Christ sacrificially makes your earthly life worthwhile and productive, then you get eternal life as a bonus.

## **Our Description of the Rule (15)**

If you do not have loss or pain in your life, and if others do not ridicule your choices, then you have not given up enough for Him yet.

## **Our Description of the Rule (16)**

How much are you like the martyrs?  
They knowingly served Jesus anyway.  
They did not turn away from torture.  
They wrote and said precious things.

**How much are you like martyrs?**

**What Did Paul and Peter Say About It?**

I am crucified with Christ:  
nevertheless I live;  
yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:  
and the life which I now live in the flesh  
I live by the faith of the Son of God,  
who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

If ye then be risen with Christ,  
seek those things which are above,  
where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.  
Set your affection on things above,  
not on things on the earth.

For ye are dead,  
and your life is hid with Christ in God.  
When Christ, who is our life, shall appear,  
then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Colossians 3:1-4

It is a faithful saying:  
For if we be dead with him,  
we shall also live with him:  
If we suffer, we shall also reign with him:  
if we deny him, he also will deny us....

II Timothy 1:11-12



This know also,  
that in the last days perilous times shall come.  
For men shall be lovers of their own selves ...  
covetous ...  
unholy ...  
highminded ...  
lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God....

II Timothy 3:1-5

But call to remembrance the former days,  
in which, after ye were illuminated,  
ye endured a great fight of afflictions;  
For ye had compassion of me in my bonds,  
and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods,  
knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven  
a better and an enduring substance.  
Cast not away therefore your confidence,  
which hath great recompence of reward.

Hebrews 10:32-35

Love not the world,  
neither the things that are in the world.  
If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.  
For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh,  
and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life,  
is not of the Father, but is of the world.  
And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof:  
but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

I John 2:15-17

**Lose Your Life to Find It**

**Save Your Life = Lose Your Life**

**Lose Your Life = Save Your Life**

## **Pastor, how do I follow the rule?**

Jesus did not give lots of suggestions and lists.  
Jesus mentioned family, money, job, wife, etc.  
No rocket science here – passionate devotion.

What effort, money, time do you give daily?

What do you lose daily for Him and His?

If no loss or pain, then no gain or glory.

## **Pastor, how do I follow the rule? (1)**

When you rise in the morning, what is your goal?  
Better yet, when you go to bed, what is the goal?  
Since you must work, do you work as for Christ?  
Since you must work, do you save time for Him?  
Every day should include worship of some kind.



## **Pastor, how do I follow the rule? (2)**

Every day should include loving Him and others.  
Loving family or friends is not it – *love brethren*.  
Praying with and/or teaching children can count.  
Cheerful hospitality to brethren is a church duty.  
Volunteer to serve in some way for the church.

## **Pastor, how do I follow the rule? (3)**

Compare your effort and time for play vs. Christ.  
Godliness dwarfs body exercise, do you work it?  
Use your joint or part to build body some way.  
Decide to reach out to encourage others' faith.  
Choose a better spot on LIFO v. FILO spectrum.

## **Pastor, how do I follow the rule? (4)**

Stir your mind; pick an option to review truth.  
A day without devotions and serving is wasted.  
If your company or family, it must be unto Him.  
Remember the difference of Mary and Martha.  
Have you prayed and shouted for God's glory?

## **Pastor, how do I follow the rule? (5)**

Do you gear your whole life around assemblies?

How many believers did you encourage today?

Did you drop any morsels to possible contacts?

What text of scripture is most precious today?

What are you most thankful for today?

## **Pastor, how do I follow the rule? (6)**

Teach your children – church over sports events.  
You will not even consider dating any unbeliever.  
You will dress for Him at all times and anywhere.  
Friends, music, entertainment are ruled for Him.  
Hate and change your comfort zone that limits.

## **Pastor, how do I follow the rule? (7)**

College education cannot justify missing church.  
For any family fools or reprobates ... Asa over Eli.  
You owe the tithe. Real givers go far beyond that.  
Houses or lands do not hinder move to a church.  
You love Stephanas for addiction to serving folks.

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