

What is my life centered on? And whatever it is centered on, is it by chance or is it part of a great plan?

There are people whose lives are centered on their jobs and there are people who don't want to have anything to do with work. There are people whose lives are centered on their next drink or their perfect car or home. There are those whose lives are centered on making money, doing drugs, getting famous, looking good.

However, in each of these people, there is also a desire for the "higher" things in life. They desire to love and desire to be loved. They care for life, whether an endangered species or the bird that visits each morning. They long for beauty – not a shallow beauty but the beauty of nature, of art, of a song. They might have struggled all day long with whatever it is that their lives are centered around, but when they lay down to sleep, they remember the "scene of the day" – when they passed by the park and paused to watch a mother laugh with her child as she tied his sneaker and kissed his head.

We seem to be torn between these two extremes. On the one hand, we spend our time and efforts on those things we like to do, want to have or are addicted to. On the other hand, we have this pull to something higher, something more important, something that isn't really about us. This is the way of life. Our will versus God's will.

We really do have a choice to listen to our emotions and listen to our own voice telling us to continue to walk the path of selfish desire or to listen to our spirits and listen to God's voice telling us to walk the path of love and responsibility. God has given us the "higher" things so that we would know we are not alone in the world and that He has a plan for us. Let's today choose to start the work to let go of our self-centered lives and begin to live a Christ-centered life. Then we become part of that "higher" plan, His Grand Plan.