

The Tipping Point

"Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!

Ecclesiastes 5:10 (NLT)

A billionaire was asked, "How much is enough?" He replied, "A little more than I have." Sounds a bit crazy to us of more humble means, but wouldn't a bit more in the bank help?

I lived on little when I entered the workforce. A simple life, but I was happy! Had everything I needed. Now, with much more, I find myself at times wishing there was a bit more in the bank. My wife and I joke, "If we only had [X], then we'd be happy!" Does it not seem true that happiness will come when we get a little bit more?

Of course we have needs that must be met. Yet, as we move up the

scale, we're drawn into the billionaire's thinking. Slowly, subtly, slipping... It's normal, but be careful...

"Send out your light and your truth; let them guide me. Let them lead me to your holy mountain, to the place where you live. There I will go to the altar of God, to God—the source of all my joy. I will praise you with my harp, O God, my God!" (Psalm 43:3-4)

There's a point at which our dependance on the one true source (the Lord) flips onto the object the Lord provides through, the (re)source. The Tipping Point is reached when our love drifts away from the source and settles on the (re)source. Money, and the job that offers it, easily masquerade as our providers, but hitting the Tipping Point appears in all aspects of our lives... health, nature, travel, politics... even church!

Reflect: Have I have slipped past the Tipping Point in any part of my life?

Once past the Tipping Point, misdirected love paints the (re)source as the source. It becomes an idol.

"Simply said, an idol is any unauthorized noun, person, place, thing, or thought that you look to as your ultimate source." – Dr. Tony Evans

Wondering if you have an idol? Watch for unwarranted fear arising, joy plummeting, defensiveness and worry increasing when a (re)source is

threatened, or an unhealthy obsession (excessive time, fanaticizing, passion) over a (re)source. Obviously, the billionaire needn't worry about sufficient food and shelter, yet apparently his obsession with money controlled his happiness. It had become his idol.

Consider: Is an idol controlling my happiness?

If I had a nickel for everyone I met who was searching for the perfect job I'd be that billionaire! They've made the job and idol, the presumed key to happiness... "If I only had a better job, then I'd be happy!" Sadly, (re)sources never fully deliver.

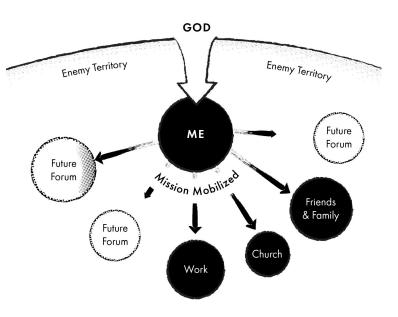
"The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need." King David (Psalm 23)

The Lord flips our logic about work upside down. As the ultimate source of everything good, he's all we need... and he delivers! It's his

work we are called to do, a Kingdom priority, not simply a worldly job.

Having formed each uniquely, perfectly suited for a particular Kingdom work (Mission), he's placed us right where he

BEHIND ENEMY LINES: MOBILIZED



wants us to advance it. Once received, we are to leverage our custom personal wiring to carry our Mission into the Forums of our lives (work, church, family...), glorifying him in each. The Lord is the source of all we need to advance it and rightly remains at the center. No longer are we to expect a job to provide lasting fulfillment, happiness, etc. Instead, Intimacy with the Lord fills us with joy as we serve him on Mission.

Imagine: Unwavering focus on my Mission leading me to idolize the Lord alone.

As people with ingrained worldly thinking, we're always at risk of crossing the Tipping Point. How do we avoid it?

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ." The Apostle Paul (Colossians 3:23-24)

Confront your Forums with your Mission. Having received it from the Lord, it's a Kingdom priority and therefore exposes idols. Look for the fruit of your Mission... has it dwindled? Have you grown too comfortable? Is little faith required to live? The Lord could be prompting you revitalize your Forum, nudging you to take a fresh Jump of Faith. Be willing!

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these

things will be added to you." Jesus Christ (Matthew 6:33)

Focus steadfastly on your Mission with a desire to "Do it More" every day. Keep a loose grip on your existing Forums and you will avoid...

The Tipping Point

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach's Questions

- What is my Mission? (Don't know it? Follow this link. <u>Mission</u>)
- How will I keep my Mission in front of me each day?
- How fruitful are my Forums? Have I become too comfortable?
 Do I require little faith to live? Is it time for a Jump of Faith?

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

The Lord alone is my source.

"For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"— yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist."

The Apostle Paul | 1 Corinthians 8:5-6 (ESV)









Brand New!

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~ DAN B. Life Mission: Shaping radical existence in the everyday



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