

FINDING FULLNESS Pt 4

“The Full Life”

“Does our insistence that this life provide more satisfaction than it can, and our determination to figure out some way to get it, lie beneath what we call psychological disorder?”
(Larry Crabb)

DOES INTEGRITY MATTER?

- Integrity isn't a destination, but rather a condition.
- Integrity is required in order to navigate the chaos of the world faithfully and full of hope.

INTEGRITY

Integrity is having the character to meet the demands of reality.

A GREAT QUESTION

What is reality?

Is reality just the hard edges of a cruel world or a beautiful revelation of something more?

Colossians 1:13 & 19-20 NIV

13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Ephesians 3:14–19 (NIV)

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 **so that** Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,

19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

“The goal [of knowing] is no longer comprehensive, mystery-eliminating, reality-denuding information. The goal is communion.”

Ester Lightfoot Meek

TRUE REALITY

- We must define our FULLNESS in the Reality in which it is AVAILABLE!
- We must be able to see RIGHTLY RELATED rightly.

Matthew 11:16–19 (NIV)

16 “To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others:

17 “ ‘We played the pipe for you,
and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge,
and you did not mourn.’

18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ 19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ But wisdom is proved right by her deeds.”

FULLNESS ON OUR TERMS

We are Dependence Resistant.

FULLNESS DEFINED

FULLNESS is the experience of God’s grace as Sufficient.

GRACE

Grace is the unmerited God-given desire, ability, and resources to participate in our Father’s economy (purpose, plan, activity) as His beloved. (Rick Shafer)

"Hardship and affliction may mysteriously yield wisdom and authenticity, readiness for deeper wonder and knowing. This graced process is the key to every knowing venture you undertake. Be patient, gentle with yourself, and thus invite the real." (Meek pg. 23)

FINDING FULLNESS

- Your grace is Sufficient.
- You are Enough.

Could you start there... and see the reality this gracious process might bring?