



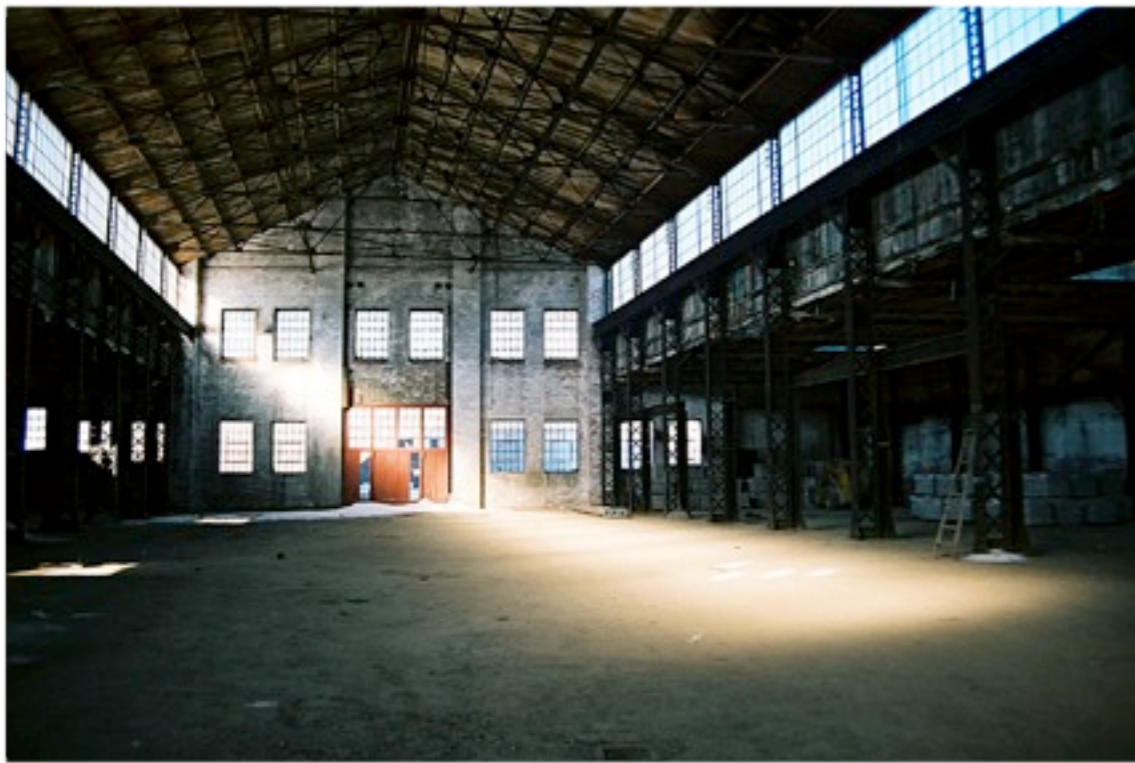
Living Vertically

...the art of Christ-centered living through spiritual decisions and disciplines

Living vertically

- ◆ Our focus turns away from ourselves, removing us from a self-centered realm of existence and opening the door of our minds to a God-centered frame of reference, where all things begin and end with Him.

Decision #1



Disciplines to live by

sacrifice
submission

solitude
self-control

humility
silence

prayer
hope

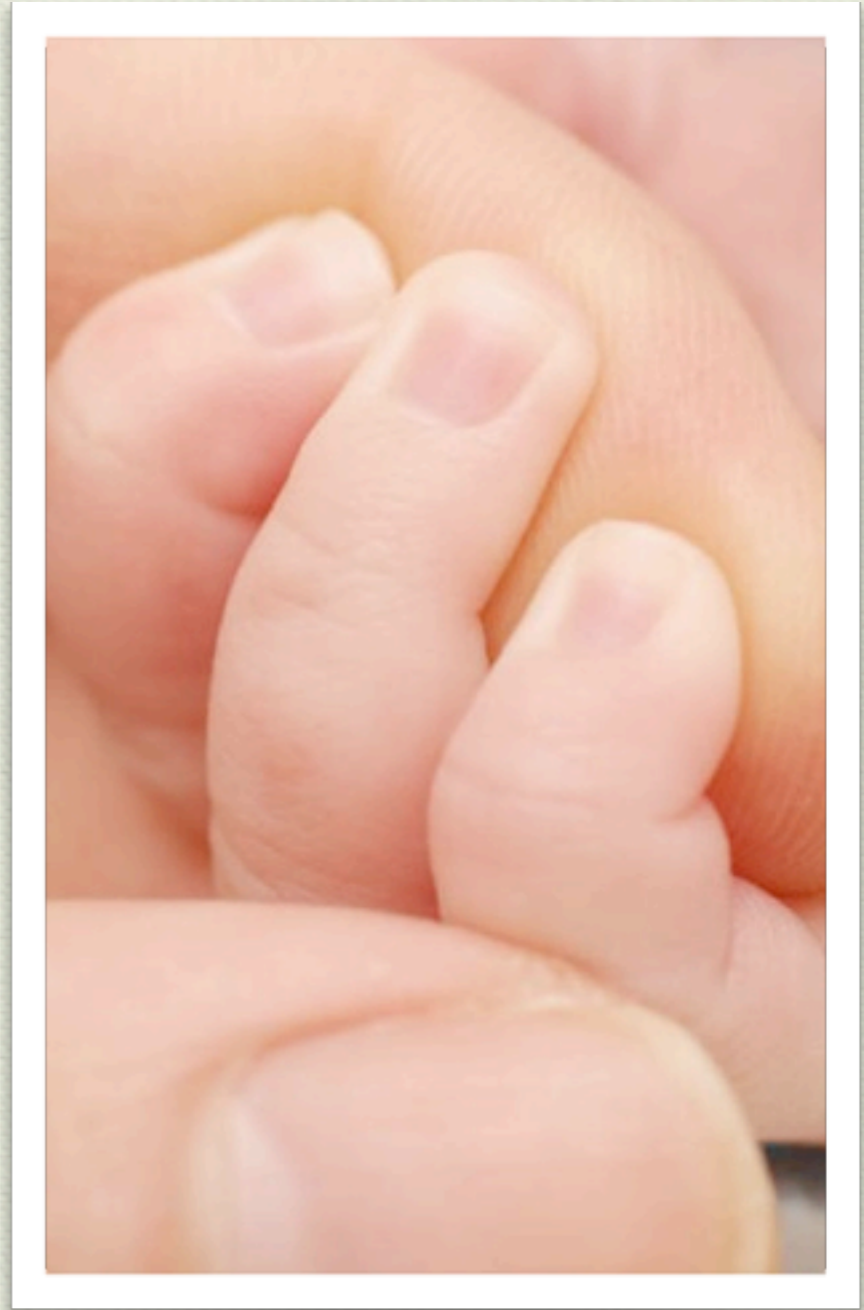
Intimacy with the
Almighty

Involvements



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Intimacy



There is
nothing like
depth to make
us dissatisfied
with
superficial
shallowness.



The Spirit, not content to flit around on the surface, dives into the depths of God, and brings out what God planned all along. (1 Corinthians 2:10)

Have you ever come on anything quite like this extravagant generosity of God, this deep, deep wisdom? It's way over our heads. We'll never figure it out.

(Romans 11:33)

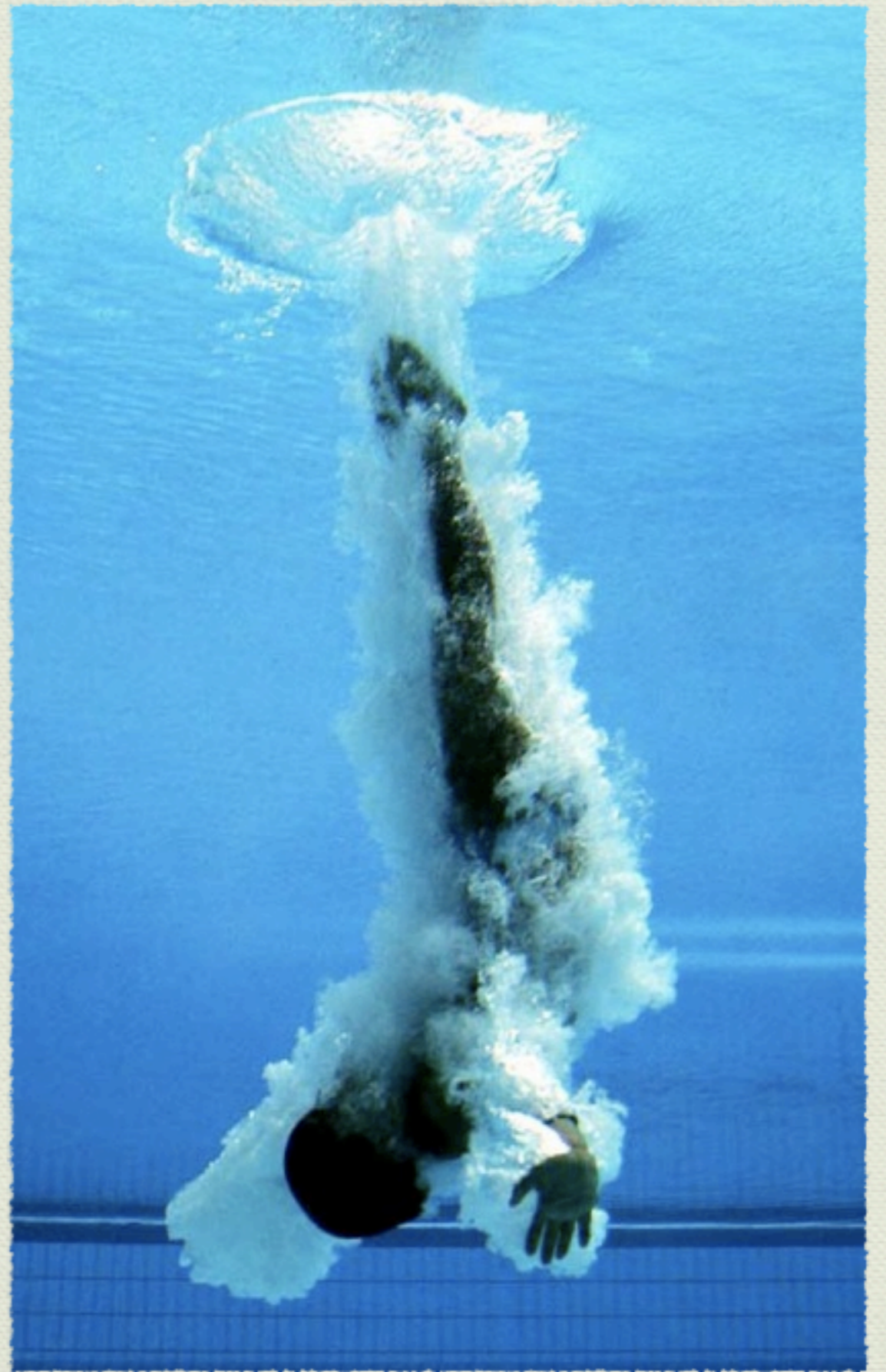
He opens up the depths, tells
secrets, sees in the dark--
light spills out of him!
(Daniel 2:22)

He shines a spotlight into caves
of darkness, hauls deepest
darkness into the noonday sun.
I babbled on about things far
beyond me, made small talk
about wonders way over my
head. (Job 12:22; 42:3)

Superficiality is the curse of this age. The desperate need today is not for a greater number of intelligent people, or gifted people, but for deep people.

~ Richard Foster

God invites
us to the
depths



A deep person is...

✦ profoundly aware of the presence of God, in touch with Him at the deepest possible level; he thinks His thoughts, gleans His wisdom and lives as close to His heart as humanly possible.

✦ After having given myself wholly to God...I renounced, for the love of Him, everything that was not God; and I began to live as if there was none but He and I in the world. ~

Brother Lawrence

Am I among the deep
people?



Beyond the
obvious!

Some of God's truths, like
priceless treasures, are hidden
in depths most folks never take
the time to search out.



He waits to
reveal insights
and dimensions
of truth to those
who care
enough to
ponder, probe
and examine.

God's ways are not
discovered through
normal, humanistic
methods.

Snorkeling and Questions

Why am I so content with shallowness?

Don't know there is depth.

Don't know how to reach for depth.



Why am I so content with shallowness?

Don't want to dive.

It's safer in the shallows.



Am I truly taking God
seriously?

When God
does not
answer as I
desire...



Questions

- ◆ Are you content with shallowness?
- ◆ Are you truly taking God seriously?
- ◆ Do you care enough to “live beyond”?
- ◆ Is your heart completely His?
- ◆ Are you taking the time to wait before Him?