

# Losing or Finding One's Life

by Marcus Dods

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*The sermon teaches that we have two choices for our life: consuming it for personal gratification or devoting it to the uses of God and men, with the latter leading to a more abundant and eternal life.*

**Scripture:** Matthew 16:25, John 12:24, Galatians 2:20, Philippians 2:4, 1 John 3:16

**Topics:** "Selfless Living", "Eternal Life"

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## Description

Marcus Dods preaches on the profound message from John 12:24, comparing the life of a grain of wheat to human life. He emphasizes the two choices individuals have: to selfishly consume their life for immediate gratification or to selflessly devote their life to serving God and others. Dods highlights the inevitable outcome of each choice, where self-centered living leads to a shallow existence, while a life dedicated to others results in abundance and eternal life.

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## Transcript

"Except a grain of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit"

(John 12:24).

As with the grain, so is it with each human life. One of two things you can do with your life; both you cannot do, and no third thing is possible. You may consume your life for your own present gratification and profit, to satisfy your present cravings and tastes and to secure the largest amount of immediate enjoyment to yourself--you may eat your life; or you may be content to put aside present enjoyment and profits of a selfish kind and devote your life to the uses of God and men. In the one case you make an end of your life, you consume it as it goes; no good results, no enlarging influence, no deepening of character, no fuller life, follows from such an expenditure of life--spent on yourself and on the present. But in the other case you find that you have entered into a more abundant life; by living for others your interests are widened, your desire for life increased, the results and ends of life enriched. "He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal." It is a law we cannot evade. He that consumes his life now, spending it on himself--he who cannot bear to let his life out of his own hand, but cherishes and pampers it and gathers all good around it, and will have the fullest present enjoyment out of it,--this man is losing his life; it comes to an end as certainly as the seed that is eaten. But he who devotes his life to other uses than his own gratification, who does not so prize self that everything must minister to its comfort and advancement, but who can truly yield himself to God and put

himself at God's disposal for the general good,--this man, though he may often seem to lose his life, and often does lose it so far as present advantage goes, keeps it to life everlasting.

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/marcus-dods/losing-or-finding-ones-life/>

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