

What have you done?
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I read about a man who, when meeting new people, never asked the conventional question, "What do you do for a living?" Instead he would ask, "What have you done that you believe in and are proud of?"

The man didn't really care how they answered; he just wanted to put the thought in their minds. He figured people should live their lives in such a way that they could give a good answer – not for him, but for themselves. He was delighted by a woman who answered, "I'm doing a good job raising three children," and by a cabinetmaker who said, "I believe in good workmanship and practice it."

You and I would say they need a good answer not just for themselves, but for God. "What have you done that you believe in and are proud of?" It's a great question. Most of us will never be happy until we find something important that we can give our life to.

Geologists tell us that only 3 percent of the earth's fresh water is on the surface in the form of rivers and lakes. The other 97 percent remains as a huge subterranean reservoir down below. The potentials of human personality are much the same. The percentage that is on the surface is miniscule compared to the vast majority underneath. So, how do we bring to the surface the powers and possibilities the Creator has placed within each of us? For me, it comes from following Jesus in much the same way I water skied with my brothers growing up.

Picture a slim athlete water skiing behind a very fast boat. That wasn't me. Instead, picture a boat towing a big log with a lot of drag. I did not pop up like my brothers. My personal weight held me down and I was towed for a while before I finally got up. The secret is to hold on tight and keep with it, and eventually the resistance will give way and you will glide over the troubled waters and waves of life. I'm proud that I have held on very tightly to my connection with Christ until the resistance I have experienced in life has given way. I'm blessed that friends have helped by lifting me up and lessening some of the drag.

Another thing that I have done that I believe in and am proud of is that I have made Jesus the boat of my life. The skier must follow the boat. Skiing ahead of the boat or traveling in a different direction than the boat doesn't work very well.

It works best if Jesus is out front, pulling, rather than behind, pushing. It is best if both you and Jesus are traveling in the same direction. His direction. Also, don't forget to hold on tightly; otherwise your forward progress will stop and you will sink!