

## Thirty Days with Jesus How can faith in Jesus change my life?

**Intro:** In our journey through the Gospel of John we have answered some of the important questions about Jesus' life:

*What did John want us to know about Jesus?*

*What did Jesus say about Himself?*

*How did Jesus prove His claims?*

*How did people react to Jesus and why?*

*Why did Jesus have to die?*

*Was Jesus really raised from the dead?*

**Let's answer one final question: How can faith in Jesus change my life?**

**Why John wrote—“that you may have life in His name”**

*John wrote his gospel with a purpose in mind. That purpose was not only or merely to convince people intellectually that Jesus was the Christ, the son of God. He wrote so that they could experience the blessings of believing in Him!*

*Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:30-31)*

The worst thing we could do in reading the gospels is simply read them as a mere historical review of a man who lived long ago. John wanted his readers to understand what Jesus could give them!

***But what did John mean by this expression “life in His name”?***

It is an important part of John's message. The word “life” appears 47 times in this gospel alone; the word “live” 8 times.

It is at the heart of Jesus' claims—what He said He could give!

**What Jesus said He could give**

The life that Jesus gives is a:

***Resurrected life***

*Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear shall live. (John 5:25)*

When we live in sin we are like walking corpses. We are dead in trespasses and sins; but Jesus can make us alive again through the forgiveness of our sins and the regenerating power of the Spirit. We can be “raised to walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:3-4).

***Illuminated life***

*Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life.” (John 8:12)*

Jesus not only makes us alive; he teaches us how to walk so as to truly live and to live victoriously.

*In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:4-5)*

### ***Nourished life***

One can live in a land of abundance and die of spiritual starvation. Spiritually, most Americans are starving because they are trying to live on Satan's "junk food". Eating it never nourishes us no matter how much we eat; but instead it makes us weaker and weaker until our souls die; but Jesus promises a nourished life!

*For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world. (John 6:33)*

*As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me. This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate, and died, he who eats this bread shall live forever. (John 6:57-58)*

### ***Satisfied life***

The problem with Satan's junk food is that it is not only unhealthy, it is not satisfying. It's like drinking salt water; the more you drink the thirstier you become! But Jesus promises a life that is satisfied.

*but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life." (John 4:14)*

### ***Abundant life***

The live Jesus gives makes us thrive. It makes our souls not only healthy but productive.

*I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal, and kill, and destroy; I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly. (John 10:9-10)*

*I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)*

But someone may say, "What difference does it make if we all end up at the same place?" Good question! The life that Jesus gives cannot be destroyed by death; instead it endures past death.

### ***Eternal life***

*These things Jesus spoke; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son, that the Son may glorify Thee, even as Thou gavest Him authority over all mankind, that to all whom Thou hast given Him, He may give eternal life. (John 17:1-2)*

*Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)*

*"Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; those who did the*

*good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment. (John 5:28-29)*  
Eternal life is not mere external existence. It is the promise of the grace of God forever.

### **Is this life really possible?**

#### ***What John had experienced***

*For of His fulness we have all received, and grace upon grace. For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. (John 1:16-17)*

#### ***You can experience it too!***

If you will hate your life

*He who loves his life loses it; and he who hates his life in this world shall keep it to life eternal. (John 12:25)*

One of the hardest thing we have to do to be a disciple is surrender control of our lives to Jesus. To “hate our life” is to make that surrender.

If you will believe in the Son

*“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; that whoever believes may in Him have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. (John 3:14-16)*

If you will come to the Son!

*and you are unwilling to come to Me, that you may have life. (John 5:40)*

*Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. (John 6:68)*

If you will come to know the Father through the Son!

*“And this is eternal life, that they may know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent. (John 17:3)*

If you will obey the Son!

*He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him. (John 3:36)*

***Conclusion: Virtually every activity of existence centers around one thing! We want to really live! But so often we seek life in all the wrong places—in money and things, in power and glory, in sensual pleasure and entertainment. Yet the answer has been in front of us all the time!***

*Jesus \*said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me. (John 14:6)*

***The life that Jesus wants to give you cost Him His life; but He was willing to make that great sacrifice that we might truly live now and eternally!!***

