

WARM-UP

- What was the best thing that happened to you recently?
- If you could pick only five things you could live on, what would they be and why?
- Name a country you want to visit or give us a picture of your dream house.

WORD *“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life.”* **JOHN 5:24**

(Read also **JOHN 5:21-23, 25-29.**)

Every day, we probably think about the kind of life we want to live. We surround ourselves with confidants and secure more things to improve the quality of our lives. While these are good, there is a deeper hole that needs to be filled. All of us are looking for a life that has meaning and purpose. The world we live in cannot give this to us. The good news is that we don't have to look too far to experience the fullness of life. Today, we take a look at the kind of life Jesus is inviting us to have as we abide in His word.

1 | Jesus is the giver of life.

“For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will.” JOHN 5:21

God is the source of all life. He has given His Son, Jesus, the authority to judge, raise the dead, and give life to those who believe in the Son. Just as we need food to sustain our physical bodies daily, we need Jesus to sustain our very lives. Whenever we feel dry or lost, we can always look to Jesus as the one who gives us life and can renew our spirit. What does Jesus say in John 10:28–30 about eternal life?

2 | Those who believe in Jesus receive eternal life.

²⁴“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. . . . ²⁸Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.” JOHN 5:24, 28–29

The kind of life Jesus offers is different from what the world offers. It is an eternal one, where we get to experience the fullness of His love. He gives this to us not because of the good works we have done, but simply by receiving and believing in Him. We can respond to this invitation and experience a resurrected life with purpose. As believers, why can we look to the end of our lives and the end of the world with hope?

Eternal life includes both the life to come and our life today.

“And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” **JOHN 17:3**

The eternal life Jesus gives does not begin when we will die physically. Eternal life refers to the life that God wants us to experience in His kingdom, both in the present age and for eternity. So if we put our faith in Jesus, we can experience eternal life starting today. We are not just to know of Jesus; He invites us to follow and walk with Him, having a relationship with Him. When we experientially know Him, we can live the life He has called us to—a victorious Christian life. Why do you think some people only associate eternal life with life after death? How does understanding that eternal life involves the here and now change your perspective?

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APPLICATION

- Have you fully trusted in Jesus as your Lord and Savior and committed to follow Him? If not, would you like us to pray with you to receive the eternal life He offers you?
- What are some areas in your life that need to be restored? What is your prayer for that area of your life?
- Think of a family member or friend whose life is headed away from God. What can you do to tell him or her about the eternal life we have in Christ? Ask someone in this group to listen to you as you prepare what to share with this person.

