

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY 01/06/2020

YouTube Link <https://youtu.be/F15sXI5oaKY>

I overheard a conversation between two people as one said to the other, "Get A Life". I am not sure if it was said in jest or disdain! But, it set me thinking, what kind of a life was being recommended.

A theologian said, "**Life can be purely existing or life can be in abundance**".

Watching the news, reading the papers and social media 'life' may be seen in a so many different ways:-

Some positive, (Abundant) some negative, (Existing) and all points in-between.

In John's Gospel **life** is one of the important themes running throughout it's pages.

Right at the beginning we are told (John 1:4), **4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind (People)**'.

This light of life which drives away the darkness of our world is the source of our spiritual renewal.

The great statement of Jesus in [John 10:10b](#), "**I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly**". leads me to ask how do we see abundant life.?

Abundance according to the dictionary means, 'present in great quantity', 'over-sufficient', or 'richly supplied with resources'.

My mind races on - is it a life where everything falls into place? Where there are no troubles to deal with, finances are more than good? And we can have lavish homes, expensive cars, holidays, etc.? We could add more to this list of THINGS.

I am sure that these THINGS are what the world means by abundant life.

But we need to pause to think what the Bible teaches us about Abundant life.

The Bible tells us that wealth, prestige, position, and power in this world are not God's priorities for us. ([1 Corinthians 1:26-29](#)). In [John 17:3 \(NIV\)](#) Jesus says, **3 "Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent"**.

Eternal life starts as we begin our relationship with Jesus and continues as we grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus our Saviour. (2Pet 3v18) It will continue as we meet Jesus in heaven.

As any gardener will say, growth takes time, and this is achieved in us as we follow Jesus and allow the Holy Spirit to lead us, progressing through stages of learning, practicing, maturing, failing, recovering, trusting, adjusting, enduring and overcoming the events of this life.

Abundant life is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control, the fruit of the Spirit, with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to help us in this life . It's the life Jesus came to show us.

What a wonderful time we have had over the last eleven days following, 'Thy Kingdom Come'. Each day brought new insight and light to the love of God for us - Quite the opposite to the way of the world.

We are not sure what will happen as lockdown is eased, but we hope that the positive acts of kindness and neighbourliness emerging from the darkness of covid-19 will continue.

What we do know is that Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, is with us, guiding and illuminating our journey however difficult that might be. We celebrated Pentecost yesterday reminding us of all that is available to us from our loving God to help us through life.

'**Get a Life**' for the Christian is the abundant life Jesus promises : the life to light up the world.

The song, 'You Give Me Life' is on YouTube at:-

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VzBV2X7-YEA&list=RDVzBV2X7-YEA&start_radio=1

You Give Me Life

Noel Robinson

You give me life abundantly
You give me hope expectantly
More than I can ask, more than I can think
Making the impossible, possible in me

Oh-oh-oh-oh, more than I can think
Making the impossible, possible in me

You give me peace, perfect peace
All I need, you've given me
More than I can ask, more than I can think
Making the impossible, possible in me

Oh-oh-oh-oh
More than I can think
Making the impossible, possible in me

When You breathe on me it brings life
Always changing me, Christ revealed in me
It's Your spirit Lord I desire
You are moulding, renewing, bringing life to me

Do it in me, do it through me
Exceedingly, Lord I am available
Do it in me, do it through me
Exceedingly, miracles signs and wonders

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PRAYER

Holy God, help us to mature in our relationship with Jesus as we journey through the life you have given to us. May we grow in grace and truth and in the knowledge of Jesus to experience abundant life in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.