

## **Eternity is Intimacy with Divinity**

When we think about eternal life, many of us picture something distant and mysterious. But eternal life isn't just about what happens after we die—it's about a quality of life that begins the moment we meet Jesus Christ.

### **Eternal Life Begins Now, Not Later**

Eternal life is unceasing, absolute fullness of life that starts with meeting Jesus. As Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life"—He doesn't just give life, He IS life. When you have Him, you have the life.

Too often we look at others with material possessions and think "they've got the life." But the truth is, if you know Jesus, you can confidently say "I got the life"—and hope they do too. The most important thing isn't what we own, but the life of God living inside us.

### **What Happens When We Die?**

The Bible tells us that through faith in Jesus Christ, we've already passed from death to life. While our physical bodies may be laid to rest temporarily, that's not who we really are. Death is done for believers—it's just the "earth suit" we take off and put in the closet of the grave for a while.

But God is so good that we'll even get our bodies back. When Jesus returns, every believer's body will be raised and reunited with their spirit—in perfect condition. No more counting calories, no more physical limitations, just perfect bodies ready for eternity.

### **What Is Eternity Really Like?**

Eternity is all about intimacy with God. When someone who knows Jesus steps into eternity, they're not worried about earthly concerns—politics, news, or worldly affairs. It's all about Him.

Heaven isn't some strange, unidentifiable place. Life continues there much like it does here, but without sin, fear, anxiety, or problems. There's work to do, construction happening (Jesus said He goes to prepare a place for us), and even buying, selling, and trading according to Scripture.

## **Heaven Has Purpose and Activity**

God planted a garden and put man in it to tend and keep it. Work wasn't meant to cause anxiety or frustration—it was designed to be joyful. In heaven, we'll serve the Lord and accomplish things without the stress and problems that come with earthly work.

## **How Should We Live Now?**

Since we know what eternity holds, we should live here like we're already there. We pray "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven" because we want to think and respond like they do in heaven—not from fear and anxiety, but from confidence in God's promises.

## **Setting Our Minds on Things Above**

We're called to set our minds on things above, not on earthly things. This doesn't mean we don't work or take care of business, but we don't let our lives revolve around temporary concerns. Our lives should center around Him—He should be our joy, peace, happiness, hope, and everything.

## **The Importance of Intimacy with God**

Worship is intimacy—not just making noise or going through motions, but pouring out your heart to Him. Faith is a heart connection with God, believing Him with an awareness of His presence.

The Bible says faith believes that "He is"—not just "He will be," but He IS. Though we can't see His light right now, by faith we believe He's the light all around us. No matter how dark the world gets, it's still light to us by faith.

## **God's Love for You**

When you understand that God knows you and cares about you, you can cast all your cares on Him. He sees you, He loves you, and He's thinking more positive things about you than you often think about yourself.

While we're conscious of our faults and imperfections, God's love is patient, kind, and never gives up. He's thinking the best about you all the time—even seeing greatness in you that you haven't accomplished yet.

## **How God Speaks to Us**

God speaks to us in that small, still voice inside. He'll speak through conviction—when you feel you shouldn't do something or should do something, pay attention. He also speaks through other people, sometimes through the most unexpected sources.

You need to have your spiritual antenna up, being expectant and looking for the Lord to speak, reveal Himself, and guide you. Sometimes He'll speak through someone you're having issues with because He wants to fix what's going on in your heart, not just give you answers.

## **Don't Let Offense Block God's Voice**

Offense can block you from hearing from God. In Mark chapter 6, people in Jesus' hometown became offended at Him, which shut down the miracles God wanted to do in their lives. We need to live on a higher level, not walking around getting offended, because that can prevent us from receiving God's direction.

## **Dealing with Pressure and Problems**

When everything seems to be going against you, sometimes you need to slow down and check your heart. Make sure you're going the right direction and not just operating in the flesh.

Jesus faced incredible pressure in the Garden of Gethsemane, but He pulled aside to pray. He didn't just keep going—He took time to fellowship with the Father and get confirmation about His direction.

## Why Worry When You Can Pray?

People get oppressed by problems because they don't pray. Problems come to everyone, but you don't have to be oppressed by your problems if you're a person of prayer.

Before asking God for things, start by reminding yourself of who He is and how He's with you. Get yourself in faith first—become more conscious of Him than of your problems. Praise and worship, get in God's Word, and let Him become more real to you.

## Life Application

This week, challenge yourself to live with an eternal perspective. Instead of letting temporary concerns dominate your thoughts, practice setting your mind on things above. When problems arise, don't immediately panic or worry—instead, pull aside like Jesus did and spend time in prayer, reminding yourself of God's presence and love for you.

Start each day by acknowledging that you have "the life"—eternal life—right now. Let this truth shape how you respond to challenges, how you treat others, and how you prioritize your time and energy.

### Ask yourself these questions:

- Am I living more conscious of God's presence than my problems?
- When pressure comes, do I immediately worry or do I turn to prayer first?
- Am I holding any offense that might be blocking me from hearing God's voice?
- Does my life revolve around temporary things or around my relationship with Him?

Remember, eternal life isn't just about the future—it's about experiencing the abundant, overflowing life of God right here, right now, in the midst of whatever you're facing.

## Quotes

1. "Eternal life is meeting Jesus. When you have him, you have the life."
2. "Don't you ever look at somebody that's got nice things and say, man, they got the life. No, they got nice things. He who has the Son has the life!"
3. "We've already passed from death to life. We're done with dying."

4. "Our body is our earth suit that we're going to take off and that's going to be laid in the closet of the grave for a little while. But, you know, God's so good, we're even going to get that back."
5. "We're going to be able to eat from all the trees of the garden. We're going to be able to eat all kinds of stuff with no guilt. Hallelujah. Don't have to count calories anymore."
6. "If a person knows the Lord Jesus, if they've been born again, when they die they'll be stepping into perfect light. Although it's sad here there is nothing gloomy, there."
7. "When you step over into eternity, it's all about Him. You're not concerned about all the natural things of this world?"
8. "We will work in heaven—we'll stay busy with the joy of our heart."
9. "We're to be setting our minds on things above and not on the things of this earth."
10. "We live here like we're there. We live here like they live there. That's why we pray they will be done on earth here as it is there in heaven."
11. "Eternity is all about intimacy with divinity. It's all about your intimacy with God."
12. "He loves you. And with a love like that, you know, you should be glad, right."
13. "He is thinking the best about you all the time."
14. "Don't let your life revolve around the things of this world. Let your life revolve around Him."
15. "Don't wait until you leave your body before life revolves around Him. Start preparing now for a life that just centers around him."
16. "Why worry when you could pray?"
16. "Before you start asking for things, start reminding yourself of things like who He is and how he's there with you."

17. "Faith is knowing him. Faith is believing He is here."
18. "If Jesus would die that kind of death for you, what wouldn't He do for you?"
19. "He wants us to live a victorious life. He wants us to live the high life—the Most High life."
20. "We can go through this life experiencing days of heaven right here on the earth."

## **Verses**

1. John 3:16
2. Hebrews 11
3. Mark 6
4. James 1:4-8
5. Acts 4

## **Summary**

Eternal life isn't just about what happens after death—it's a quality of life that begins the moment we meet Jesus Christ. When we have Jesus, we have life itself, not just material possessions or temporary happiness. Death is already defeated for believers; our physical bodies are just temporary earth suits that will be perfectly restored when Jesus returns. Heaven is a place of purposeful activity and intimate relationship with God, free from sin and anxiety. Since we know what eternity holds, we should live now with an eternal perspective, setting our minds on things above rather than temporary concerns. This means turning to prayer instead of worry, staying open to God's voice, and letting our relationship with Him be the center of our joy and peace.