

LIFE

LIFE WITH **JESUS**
STARTS NOW AND LASTS
FOREVER



Draw a picture of LIFE.



The-o-log-i-cal Term of the Day: **Al-ready, But Not Yet**

Definition: _____

Upward

Read John 17:3 and John 10:28.

Jesus' gift of LIFE is personal and permanent.



LIFE with Jesus starts now and lasts forever.

Inward

Thank God for the total security that comes from being in His hands. How does it make you feel? What will you do in response to this gift?

Outward

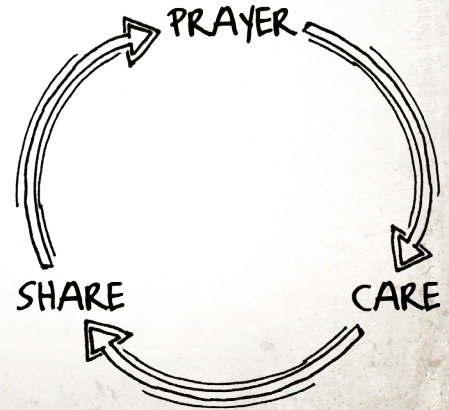
Life in 6 Words has taken you **deep** into the meaning of the GOSPEL so that you can go **wide** with the message of the GOSPEL to others.

Our world today is filled with many good and worthy causes, but the cause that consumed Jesus is the ultimate cause! His cause is THE Cause...to make disciples who make disciples. So go and make disciples.

THE Cause Circle

Making disciples who make disciples

Write the names of three friends who need Jesus in the center of THE Cause Circle. Start praying for them, caring for them and sharing the gospel with them.



Life in 6 Words: The GOSPEL

It's the full story of life, crushed into four minutes. The entire sea of humanity in the palm of your hand, crushed into one sentence. Listen, it's intense, right?

God. Our. Sins. Paying. Everyone. Life. The greatest story ever told, that's hardly ever told.

GOD. Yes, GOD, the maker and giver of life, and by life I mean any and all matter and substance, seen and unseen, what can and can't be touched. Thoughts, images, emotions, love, atoms and oceans. God. All of it His handiwork, one of which His masterpiece made so uniquely that angels looked curiously. The one thing in creation that was made with His imagery, the concept so cold, it's the reason I stay bold. How God breathed in the man and he became a living soul.

Formed with the intent of being infinitely, intimately fond, Creator and creation held in eternal bond. And it was placed in perfect paradise until something went wrong. And species got deceived and started lusting for His job, an odd list of complaints as if the system ain't workin'. And used that same breath He graciously gave us to curse Him. And that sin seed spread through the souls' genome, and by the nature of your nature, your species, you participated in the mutiny.

OUR. Yes, OUR sins. It's nature inherited, blackened the human heart, it was over before it started, deceived from day one and led away by our own lust. There's not a religion in the world that doesn't agree something's wrong us. The question is, what is it? And how do we fix it? Are we eternally separated from a God that may or may not have existed? But that's another subject, let's keep grinding, besides, trying to prove God is like defending a lion, homie. It don't need your help. Just unlock the cage. Let's move on on how our debt can be paid.

Short and sweet, the problem is **SIN. Yes, SIN**. It's a cancer, an asthma, choking out our life force, forcing separation from a perfect and holy God, and the only way to get back is to get back to perfection. But silly us, trying to pass the course of life without referring to a syllabus. This is us. Heap up your good deeds, chant, pray, meditate. Well, all of that of course, is spraying cologne on a corpse. Or you could choose to ignore it, as if something don't stink. It's like steppin' in dog poop and refusing to wipe your shoe.

But all of that ends with "How good is good enough?" Take your silly list of good deeds and line em up against perfection... good luck. That's life past your pay grade. The cost of your soul, you ain't got a big enough piggy bank... but you could give it a shot. But I suggest you throw away the list, 'cause even your good acts are an extension of your selfishness.

But here's where it gets interesting. I hope you're closely listening. Please don't get it twisted, it's what makes our faith unique. Here's what God says is Part A of the gospel: You can't fix yourself, quit trying, it's impossible. Sin brings death. Give God his breath back, you owe Him. Eternally separated, and the only way to fix it is someone dying in your place.

And that someone's gotta be perfect or the payment ain't permanent. So if and when you find a perfect person, get him or her to willingly trade their perfection for your sin and death. Clearly since the only one that can meet God's criteria is God, God sent himself as Jesus to pay the cost for us. His righteousness, His death, functions as **PAYMENT. Yes, PAYMENT.**

Wrote a check with His life, but at the resurrection we all cheered, 'cause that means the check cleared. Pierced feet, pierced hands, blood-stained Son of Man, fullness, forgiveness, free passage into the promise land. That same breath that God breathed into us, God gave up to redeem us.

And anyone and everyone, and by **EVERYONE**, I mean **EVERYONE**, who puts their faith and trust in Him and Him alone can stand in full confidence of God's forgiveness. And here's what the promise is, that you are guaranteed full access to return to perfect unity.

By simply believing in Christ and Christ alone, you are receiving **LIFE. Yes, LIFE.**

This is the GOSPEL – GOD. OUR. SINS. PAYING. EVERYONE. LIFE.



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