

# Test Yourself!

Do your ***Life Goals***  
Bring you ***LIFE?***



# Style of writing!

I love bullet points!

Don't talk me to death.

Give me your bottom line first and then make your explanation brief.  
That is why:

- My table of contents gives the main subjects!
- The Intro. briefly answers each question in the booklet.
- The chapters are brief studies, filling in each point.

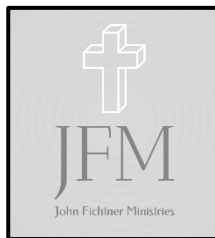
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**Finish the Sentence - - "I WANT..."**

<i>Pleasure</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Productivity</i>
<i>Family</i>	<i>Friends</i>	<i>Finances</i>
<i>Security</i>	<i>Safety</i>	<i>Success</i>
<i>Love</i>	<i>Laughter</i>	<i>Legacy</i>
<i>To Help People</i>	<i>To be Admired</i>	
<i>To be Right</i>	<i>To be Left Alone</i>	

4. **Test – do I have TWO Choices?**



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## Intro – Overview

1. I was a **Hamster Running Aimlessly** on a **Wheel** – Chasing **Empty** Life Goals!

Each goal left me emptier.

2. **My Last Two Life Goals**

If nothing else satisfies, maybe I can

- i. HELP people and
- ii. be a GOOD person.

3. **Soloman's Test - Book of Ecclesiastes**

**Finish the Sentence - - "I WANT..."**

<i>Pleasure</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Productivity</i>
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**LIFE?**

If you are **NOT** living **ONLY** for Jesus, then you have **AVOIDED** this **question** – all of your life.

4. **It's not really TWO Choices. It's only ONE choice.**

**No one** is a True Christian because Jesus is the **BEST** choice.

We are True Christians because Jesus is the **ONLY** choice.



## Chap. 1

## I was a **Hamster Running Aimlessly** on a **Wheel** – Chasing **Empty** Life Goals!

Hamsters can live very sad lives.

When you place them in a spinning wheel and put food in front of them - they chase food by running on a spinning wheel – thinking that this gets them closer to the food.

When they **can't reach** the food – they just **run harder**

They **never reach** the food.

I was that Hamster.



### My Split Personality Childhood.

I had an extremely unique childhood. From elementary school through 9<sup>th</sup> grade, I lived in some of the **worst physical** and **verbal** abuse imaginable, both in my **home** and in my **school**.

Then we moved to Georgia, and I went to a **different** high school. I went from the **worst** high school situation to the **best** high school situation. In this new high school and I **thrived** beyond comprehension.

In this new high school, I was very **popular** and **successful** in **friendships**, in **athletics**, in **academics** and **achievements**. My closet at home could not hold all the awards I won.

When high school was over, I felt **so very EMPTY**.

All that fun and success was **GONE**. I realized that my **success** did **NOT** bring me permanent **LIFE**. It just made me want to **run faster** on the hamster wheel. I experienced the **lowest** misery and the **highest** success and neither one satisfied. I wanted something that would **LAST**.

I was **not** willing to run on the **hamster wheel** anymore.

## I began to Test my Life Goals

I was no longer willing to blindly follow Life Goals.

With each Life Goal, I asked the hard question - Does this bring real LIFE?

I began to chase and test each life goal.

- I chased more **pleasure**.
- I chased more **power**.
- I chased more **knowledge**.
- I chased more **friends**.
- I chased more **money**.
- I chased more **recognition**.

Being a math major, I quickly recognized the

***“Law of Diminishing Returns”.***

- I recognized that each goal **Feels Rewarding** on the **Front** End.
- However, the **Longer I Chased** that goal the **Emptier** I became.

After each goal failed to fulfill, I was left with only two goals that gave me any hope of finding real LIFE.

## My Last Two Life Goals

If nothing else can bring me LIFE, maybe I can:

- i. HELP people and
- ii. be a GOOD person.

### Helping People

I was everyone's big brother. I loved helping people and had many people who poured out their problems and pains to me.

I gave comfort, encouragement and helpful suggestions.

Yet, for all the people that I helped, I recognized that **NONE** of them **REALLY CHANGED!**

### True Christians Really IRRITATED me.

Some of my friends became True Christians.

**Overnight**, they **Changed MORE** in **One Day** than in **ALL** the **Years** of my help. What was **WORSE** is that they **Continued** to **Change** in positive powerful ways.

It felt **painful** and **humiliating** to admit that those Christians could bring **More Permanent Change** in a soul in **one day** than I could in a lifetime.

I had to face the fact that I **wanted** to help people to **make MYSELF feel better**. I had **no ability** to bring **PERMANENT CHANGE** in people's hearts. Only True Christians could do that.

### My Final Goal – Improve Morally

Those Christians **crushed** my **hope** of my life having great meaning by helping people. This only left me with my **final act** of **Defiance** against God. My final goal was to **PROVE** that I could **IMPROVE Morally** with **NO HELP** from God. I share that story in the booklet:

*“Christianity – the Only Logical Religion”*





## Chap. 3

**Soloman's Test - Book of Ecclesiastes**

In the Bible book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon was determined to find a **FULFILLING LIFE** in his own ability **APART** from God. Solomon was the **Wisest & Richest** man on the earth. He had the **Resources** to really **test** each goal. He found that the **MORE** he chased each goal, the **EMPTIER** he became.

If you are **NOT** living **ONLY** for Jesus, then you have **AVOIDED** this **question** – all your life. The most terrifying step for any Non-Christian is to take Solomon's test in the book of Ecclesiastes.

Would you be **willing** to be as **brave** as **Solomon**?

Every **True Christian** has **taken** this **Test**!

This is why it **takes Great Courage** to **become** a **Christian**!

**Here** is the **TEST! CIRCLE all** those answers that **APPLY** to **you**.

**Finish the Sentence - - "I WANT..."**

*Pleasure?*

*Purpose?*

*Productivity?*

*Family?*

*Friends?*

*Finances?*

*Security?*

*Safety?*

*Success?*

*Love?*

*Laughter?*

*Legacy?*

*To Help People?*

*To be Admired?*

*To be Right?*

*To be Left Alone?*

**Now** comes the **Painful Part**!

Please Answer these Questions for your own Eternal Soul.

1. Have these goals **Increased** or **Decreased** your **Fulfillment** over **Decades**?
2. Have these goals given you **MORE Peace & Joy**?
3. Have these goals **Answered** your **Ache** for **Eternity**?

Please be as **Brave** as Solomon! Please have the **courage** to take a **Hard Look** at **WHY** you exist. Does your Life-Goal, bring **LIFE** that will **last** for **tens of thousands** of years?



## Test – do I have TWO Choices?

**NO!**

It is such a huge deception for the **Half-way** Christians to **TRY** to be a Christian because that is what they **SHOULD** do.

**EVERY** True Christian knows **2** Things

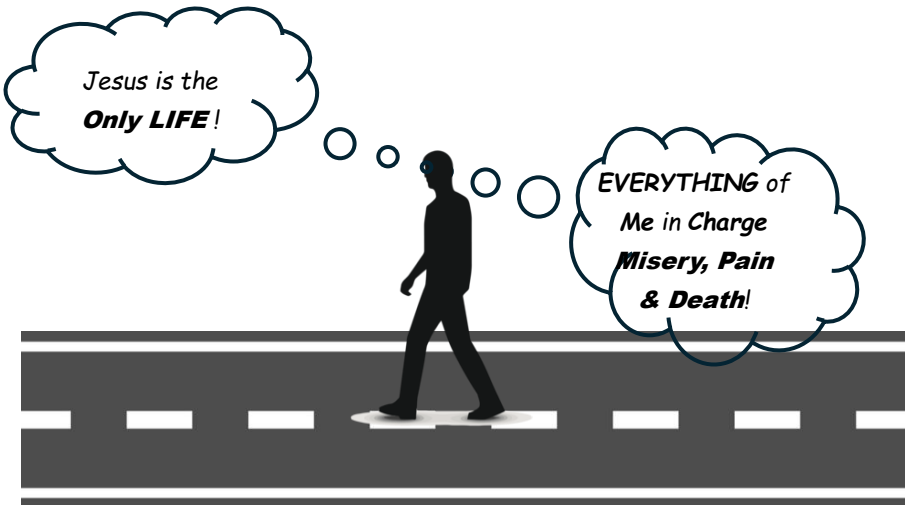
1. Everything of Jesus is **LIFE**!
2. Everything of SELF is **DEATH**.

*Jn. 14:6 Jesus answered, I am the **Only Way** the **Only Truth** and the **Only LIFE**. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

Having taken these tests, we know, with **absolute certainty**, that anytime **I** am in **charge**, apart from Jesus, it will bring **poison** and **pain** eventually to **my life** and to **everyone I love**.

- We do **NOT** always **Immediately SEE** the Goodness of God.
- However, when we do **NOT** see God's Goodness right away, we are **NEVER Tempted** to take charge of our life.

We **may not see** Jesus' life **immediately**, in all situations, but we **KNOW** that the **OTHER** path is **Death**.



That is **Why** we stay **Faithful**!



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**4. Christianity – the ONLY Logical Religion**

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The Bible teaches that truth is a belt, and our perspective is a belt loop.

**6. The Cross – The Story of the Last 24 Hours**

This study combines all four gospels to examine the last 24 hours and what happened on the cross.

**7. Grace – the Power to WANT to do Right!**

This study teaches us to release God's Grace constantly so that God can change our hearts and give us HIS desires.

## 8. Marriage – 3 Bottom Lines!

Six times the Bible says that the purpose of Marriage is for the two to become one.

## 9. Science & the Bible – How They Agree

Many modern scientific breakthroughs were predicted and practiced in the Bible thousands of years ago.

## 10. Test Yourself:

**Do your Life Goals bring you LIFE?**

Finish the sentence “*I Want ...*” and see what you get.

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