



# FREE LIFE NEWS

WINTER EDITION  
2016

## New Again!

Hello,

This newsletter is published for you. For you to share your testimony of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and how He changed your life. It has been our desire for the past 15 years to give you this opportunity. Some of you reading this, may be acquainted with the **Free Life News** already. Many of you may be new to this. We are here to encourage you to develop a relationship with God, our Creator through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The only Way to Him. In this newsletter you will read testimonies of other inmates, and devotionals, poems, songs and prayers to lead you to Him. If you desire to share your personal story, all we ask is not get too detailed in your past, but the circumstances in which you came to faith in Jesus Christ. We look forward to reading your story. May your lives be touched in such a way, that you will seek Jesus with all your heart and love Him the same way. He said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, no one comes the Father but by Me." John 14:6

Let us know of your decision to follow Him.

### **The Free Life Team**

#### **Inside this issue**

- TODAY'S VERSE
- A MAN CAN GO TO HEAVEN
- TODAY
- PRAYER SCHEDULE
- MY HOPE
- YOU ARE WANTED
- TASTE AND SEE
- OUR INHERITANCE

## THE MEANING OF LIFE

Questions plague our thoughts as we go through daily life. What to wear, where to have lunch, and what to watch on TV are asked almost every second in our world. We question why we have to suffer and what we did to deserve "this" or "that" as often as we are asked if we want fries with our Big Mac. But the question that matters most may go unasked for centuries. What is the meaning of life Consider the human heart. For some of us, it will beat between 60 to 70 times a minute. That is 3,600 beats each hour, 86,400 each day or 2.5 billion over an 80 year lifetime. In respect to eternity, our lives amount to 1 heart beat in that 80 years.

Our lives are nothing in the long run. And to add insult to injury, everything we work to accomplish and gain is not able to follow us after we die. Someone else will get your money, your job, your house, and this someone may not deserve or care about what you have left behind, so what is the point?

The book of Genesis begins by telling of our creation. God formed us from dust of the ground and He breathed life into us. That breath did more than cause muscles to contract and synapses to fire. God's breath embedded His spirit deep within us. And with His spirit comes a natural curiosity about eternal realities.

Cont. on page 3

## A MAN CAN GO TO HEAVEN

### Today's Verse

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. — **Ephesians 3:20-21**

### Thought

Sometimes there is nothing left for us to do except praise God! While we may sometimes dream of doing great things for God and his Kingdom, the dreams aren't as big as God's plans. While we may be richly talented, influential, powerful, or rich, these are merely tools in God's hands, not symbols of our sufficiency. "God is able" has to be one of the best and most accurate phrases in the Bible. But this time, it's said about his work in you in me. He is able much more than we imagine to work through and in us. What can we say to that? Hallelujah!

### Prayer

Loving Father, please help me better know and live your will. I want to be your vessel of ministry, healing, blessing, and hope to those around me at work and play. Please use me to your glory today, and always. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Phil Ware—Heartlight Magazine used by permission

### I BELIEVE IN MIRACLES

I believe in miracles I've seen a soul set free, miraculous the change in one Redeemed at Calvary; I've seen the lily push its way up thru the stubborn sod-I believe in miracles, because I believe in God!

O Father, fill me and transform me by the power of the Holy Spirit at work within me. Mold me and conform me to the character and compassion of your Son Jesus, in whose name I pray.

WITHOUT HEALTH  
WITHOUT WEALTH  
WITHOUT FAME  
WITHOUT LEARNING  
WITHOUT BEAUTY  
WITHOUT FRIENDS  
WITHOUT TEN THOUSAND THINGS  
BUT HE CAN NEVER GO TO HEAVEN WITHOUT JESUS "I AM THE WAY THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE; NO MAN COMES UNTO THE FATHER BUT BY ME." John 14:6

Will you trust Him today for His forgiveness and accept His life in exchange for yours? Jesus is the ONLY One Who can meet all the desires of your heart. 2 Cor. 5:17-21

### I STAND AMAZED IN THE PRESENCE

I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus the Nazarene, and wonder how he could love me, a sinner, condemned, unclean.

Refrain:

How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be: How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior's love for me!

2.For me it was in the garden he prayed: "Not my will, but thine." He had no tears for his own griefs, but sweat-drops of blood for mine. (Refrain)

3.In pity angels beheld him, and came from the world of light to comfort him in the sorrows he bore for my soul that night. (Refrain)

4.He took my sins and my sorrows, he made them his very own; he bore the burden to Calvary, and suffered and died alone. (Refrain)

5.When with the ransomed in glory his face I at last shall see, 'twill be my joy through the ages to sing of his love for me. (Refrain)

By Charles H Gabriel

As human beings, we try to answer questions of eternity in human terms. We find no peace in this because our efforts are flawed. We are filled with impurities and thus cannot find a complete answer. In our millisecond on the timeline of eternity, our life is meaningless. Yet we desire to find meaning.

It doesn't matter if we walk beside wisdom or chase after folly, or if we attain wealth, knowledge, fame, or power, we all reach the same inevitable fate. Death is the great equalizer of all creation. By it buildings crumble, leaves fall, and mountains erode. All life feels death's hand and no manner of earthly works can alter this course.

Revelation speaks of a time when we all will be judged. Think of judgment day as a potter examining his finished products. Each of us will be inspected for our imperfections before a decision is made of what to do with us. The flawed products will be removed from the potter's eyes, while the perfect are deemed pleasing and allowed to remain.

Our ultimate goal is to pass the potter's test. That is the meaning of our short lives here. This is not easy because we all are impure and fall short of God's standards. Left to our own methods, we would all fail.

But God, like any good teacher, does not test you without giving you a textbook to study and offering a tutor who is available to all who ask for help. Some may choose not to study, while others analyze each word. Most who study accept the help of the tutor and the tutor has yet to lead a single person to make less than a perfect score in almost 2,000 years.

So the question that should be asked is: Do you have help to pass the test?

Bradley Weeks  
Lindsey State Jail  
Jacksboro, TX

You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you. Ps. 86:5

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. (Colossians 3:1-4, ESV)  
That is good news for you to hide in your heart to lighten the burden of your heart. Jesus said take no thought for tomorrow, for tomorrow will take care of itself.

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come, Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heav'n and home, When Jesus is my portion? My constant Friend is He: His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me; His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Refrain:

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free, For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

"Let not your heart be troubled," His tender word I hear, And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears; Though by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see; His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me; His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise, When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies, I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free; His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me; His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Our prayer is that you have found in these pages the way to the Lord Jesus Christ. If you have felt a tug at your heart, and want to receive salvation, pray this simple prayer. "Lord Jesus, I need you. Thank you for taking away all my sin. I confess that you are Lord, believing in my heart that God raised you from the dead. I ask you to come in to my heart and I will be saved." In Jesus Name, Amen

TODAY

Today was the absolute worst day ever  
And don't try to convince me that  
There's something good in everyday  
Because, when you take a closer look  
This world is a pretty evil place  
Even if  
Some goodness does shine through once in a while  
Satisfaction and happiness don't last  
And it's not true that  
It's all in the mind and heart  
Because  
True happiness can be obtained  
Only if one's surroundings are good  
It's not true that good exists  
I'm sure you can agree that  
The reality  
Creates  
My attitude  
It's all beyond my control  
And you'll never in a million years hear me say that  
Today was a good day.

**Now read from bottom to top**

William Delpho  
(Contributed)  
Lindsey State Jail



WE ARE BEGINNING THE NEWSLETTER AGAIN  
AFTER SOME TIME AWAY, AND THERE ARE MANY  
SOULS TO REACH WITH THE GOOD NEWS OF THE  
LOVE OF GOD—WHO'S GOING TO HELP SPREAD IT ?  
You? Thank you, and you, Wow, Great! How about  
YOU?  
Won't you join in to help us lead others to Saving  
faith in Christ? Write for a free subscription today!  
Without delay.  
The Free Life Team

## PRAYER SCHEDULE

1. Start with praise to God
2. Wait on the Lord
3. Pray God's word using scripture verses
4. Sing His word
5. Confession
6. Intercession-Praying for others
7. Petition-pray for yourself
8. Reflection-How has God been working in your life?
9. Thankfulness-for Jesus, for your blessings
- 10.. End with praise

## SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER

"Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,  
that calls me from the world of care, And bids  
me at my Father's throne, Make all my wants  
and wishes known! In seasons of distress and  
grief, My soul has often found relief, And oft  
escaped the tempter's snare By thy return ,  
sweet hour of prayer. Sweet hour of prayer,  
sweet hour of prayer, The joys I feel, the bliss  
I share of those whose anxious spirits burn  
With strong desires for thy return! With such  
I hasten to the place where God my Savior  
shows His face, and gladly take my station  
there, and wait for thee, sweet hour of pray-  
er. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of pray-  
er, Thy wings shall my petition bear To Him ,  
whose truth and faithfulness engage the  
waiting soul to bless: and since He bids me  
seek His face , believe His word and trust His  
grace, I'll cast on Him my every care, and wait  
for thee, sweet hour of prayer."

Contributed by Sally—  
Free Life Ministry Partner

## “Heaven’s Grocery Store”

As I got a little closer the doors came open wide.  
And before I realized it, I was standing there inside.  
I saw a host of Angels, they were hovering everywhere,  
One handed me a basket and said, “My child shop with care.”  
“Everything a Christian needs is in this grocery store  
And all that you cannot carry, come the next day for more.”  
First I got some patience, I found love in the same row  
Further down was understanding, you need that everywhere you go.  
I got a box of wisdom. I needed two of faith.  
I couldn’t miss the Holy Spirit. He was all over the place!  
I stopped to pick up strength and courage, to run life’s race.  
By then my basket was almost full, but I still needed grace!  
I didn’t forget salvation, it was marked, “This is free”,  
So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.  
Then I started up the aisle to pay Heaven’s grocery bill,  
For I had everything to do my Master’s will.  
As I went along I saw prayer and I had to put that in.  
For I knew when I stepped outside, I could run into sin.  
Peace and joy were plentiful, they were on the last shelf.  
Songs and praises were hanging near, so I just helped myself!  
Then I said to the Angel, “I know I’ve been so slow,  
There is so much I needed how much do I owe?”  
He smiled as he replied, “My child, you mean you didn’t know?  
Jesus paid your bill with love, a long, long time ago!”

Written by:  
Sylvia Esparza  
To her husband  
Ruben Esparza  
Lindsey State Jail  
Jacksboro, TX

### OUR INHERITANCE IN CHRIST

When a person repents of their sinful lifestyle and turns to Jesus for forgiveness and salvation, they not only receive that forgiveness, but they also receive the life of Christ and all that he has.

1. Justified----- Romans 3:23,24,28
2. Chosen by God----- Eph. 1:4
3. Totally Forgiven----- Col. 2:13-14
4. Saved through His life----- Romans 5:10
5. Righteousness----- Romans 5:21
6. Made Perfect----- Hebrews 10:14
7. Baptized into Christ----- 1 Cor. 12: 12,13,18
8. Holy & Blameless---- Col. 1:22
9. Sealed in Christ----- Eph. 1:12
10. Hidden in Christ--- Col. 3:3
11. Clothed in Christ----- Gal. 3:27
12. Complete in Christ----- Col. 2:9-10
13. Loved Perfectly ----- Romans 8: 38-39
14. New Creation in Christ 2 Cor. 5:17
15. Received the promise of Eternal life Heb. 10:15
16. Children of God, heirs of God—Co-heirs with Christ Rom. 8:17

As you read your Bible, look for additional inheritances afforded to you through your faith in Him. As a child of God, we are given everything we need for life and godliness in Christ, we have the mind of Christ, wisdom and knowledge. There are many more, write them down, and hide them in your heart, your life will be changed as you discover your new identity in Christ. You might be asking yourself, “What must I do to be saved”? **Believe !!**

2 Cor. 5:17-21

Romans 5:10

Romans 10:8-10; 13

BE SAVED TODAY,

INVITE JESUS INTO YOUR HEART

## Character

Character is built slowly over a lifetime. It is the sum of every right decision, every honest word, every noble thought, and every heartfelt prayer. It is doing honorable work and polished by the twin virtues of generosity and humility. Character is a precious thing – difficult to build but easy to tear down. As believers in Christ, we must seek to live each day with discipline, honesty, and faith. When we do, integrity becomes a habit **AND GOD SMILES.**

Character is formed by doing the things we are supposed to do, when it should be done, whether we feel like doing it or not.

Integrity is the gift that holds our way of life together. We must constantly strive to keep our integrity intact. When wealth is lost; nothing is lost. When health is lost; something is lost. When character is lost; **ALL IS LOST.**

**William Delpho -  
Lindsey State Jail , Texas**

## MY HOPE

How wonderful it is to have the promise from Jesus that He will come back to get us and take us to be with Him where He is forever! Now that is REAL HOPE! If we can see our daily provisions against the backdrop of that awesome truth, it sure does put things in perspective!

That's how I get through the day—I'm sentenced to die in this Prison—with out that hope, it would really be a miserable existence. Not only do I have that promise but I have the awesome privilege of having Jesus by the Holy Spirit living in me and allowing Him to lead me and guide me and council me each day.

From time to time He gives me the opportunity to share this hope with others and that's when the full benefit comes into play. How awesome it is to have a living , thriving ,loving, personal relationship with Jesus Christ!

Joe Cushman  
Mt. Olive, VA

## TASTE AND SEE

Psalm 31:8,

“Taste and see that the Lord is good.” There is nothing more greater than the taste of our Lord Jesus. There's nothing more wonderful than drinking from His well of Living Water. For Isaiah said, “with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.” Nothing is more needful today than to try Him and see that He's sweet to your taste in everyway. When you taste Jesus you will never taste anything so beautiful and good as long as you live. The life waters will change your life, it will be clean, pure, honest, simple, plain and pleasant. As he lives through you, things become fine, wholesome, good, gladsome, amazing, and assuring. There you will find uplifting days, edifying brothers, comforting words and favor from Officers and Staff. The way with Him is peaceful, strengthening, and satisfying, gentle, kind, patient, forbearing and tenderhearted. He embraces no evil, he's not deceitful. He overcomes evil with good and uncomplaining prayers for others who despise Him. When Jesus is in you, war is impossible, alcoholism is abolished, crime is obliterated and sexual lust won't exist, only a desire to serve Him with gladness. A gift for others , a gratitude of heart, and a smile for a lonesome inmate that is feeling down. Try Jesus, drink of His wells, live a life for Him and experience the wonderful taste of Jesus.

## YOU ARE WANTED!

BY God the Father

YOUR PUNISHMENT HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL BY THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

SURRENDER TODAY

YOU GET THE REWARD:

REDEMPTION, RECONCILIATION TO GOD, TO BE AN AMBASSADOR OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, A NEW LIFE , AN ETERNAL INHERITANCE, YOUR NAME WRITTEN IN THE LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE, A CONSTANT COMPANION, UNCONDITIONAL LOVE, NO CONDEMNATION, AN OPPORTUNITY TO WALK AFTER THE SPIRIT, THE PROMISE OF NEVER BEING SEPERATED FROM GOD, A WELL OF LIVING WATER SPRINGING UP FROM WITHIN YOUR HEART.

ALL FOR YOU, IF YOU WILL SURRENDER TO THE CALL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TODAY.

Romans 10:9-10,13 14

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Cor.5:17-21

Oh, how I love Jesus, Oh, how I  
love Jesus, Oh, how I love Jesus,  
because He first loved me.

### Living Sacrifices

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 1:1-2

*IN EVERYTHING, GIVE THANKS!!  
THANK YOU GOD FOR ALL YOU HAVE  
DONE THOROUGH YOUR SON, JESUS  
CHRIST*

“It is indeed more blessed to be in Prison with Jesus than being outside without Christ. I thank God for the inmates that write and read the FLN have gotten this "sweet revelation" that anchors their faith no matter the situation.”

Pastor Robert—Uganda Free Life



Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name; make known to the nations what he has done.

Sing to Him, sing praise to Him; tell him of all his wonderful acts.

Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.  
Psalms 105:1-4

## **FREE LIFE NEWS**

PO BOX 1861  
WEATHERFORD, TX 76086

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Weatherford, TX  
Permit No.

**VISIT US ON THE WEB**

[www.freelifeministry.com](http://www.freelifeministry.com)

## **CALLING**

Jesus, the Light of the world, desires to be the Light in your world. He is the Lamb of God who takes away our sin, He who believes in the Son of God has eternal life. God loves you and desires to fill you with his promises. Are you tired?—Jesus, said, “Come to me, all who are weary and heavy laden, I will give you rest, take my yoke upon you, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” Are you Thirsty?—Jesus said, “whoever drinks of the water I shall give him will never thirst again, but the water I shall give him will become a well of water within him that bubbles up for eternal life.” Are you hungry?—Jesus said, “I am the Bread of life, he who comes to me will never hunger and he who believes in me will never thirst.” Are you lost?—Jesus said, “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.” Do you need Someone to cling to?—Jesus said, “I am the True Vine and My Father the vinedresser, remain in me, I am the Vine, you are the branches.” Are you troubled?—Jesus said, “Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father’s house are many dwelling places, I have gone to prepare a place for you, and am coming back to get you, so you will be with Me always.” Are you ready?—Jesus said, “I have loved you with an everlasting love, I will satisfy your every need. I will be your Guide, your Friend. I am the Good Shepherd, I have laid down my life for you, I have come to give you peace, I have come for you.”

Are you ready to receive life?— Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved, The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart. Believe with your heart, confess with your mouth, Jesus Christ is Lord. Will you trust Him today? Will you pray this prayer? “Lord Jesus, I need you, thank you for taking away my sins, come into my heart, and give me a brand new life in You. I love you, Lord Jesus.

Thank you for saving my soul.”

Amen