

LOVING LIFE, PART 14 • Grasping for Life?

Pastor Matt Heard, Read: John 3:16-21

Five Essentials For Life

1. **Love of God** (For God so love the world...)
2. **Son of God** (that he gave his one and only Son...)
3. **Belief in God** (that whoever believes in Him...)
4. **Death without God** (shall not perish...)
5. **Life with God** (but have eternal life...)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. – John 3:16

Loving
Life
A journey
through
the Gospel of John

Questions

1. **Love:** The things we “love” are things that we place great value upon. It is not merely an emotion. In economics, the cost (worth) we place upon something is determined by the willingness of someone to pay – thus creating value. According to John 3:16, God has placed a great value upon you as he was willing to pay the ultimate price – the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus. Meditate on this truth for a few moments. Then explain the significance of this reality in your life today. How does it impact your view of God? How does it impact your view of yourself?
2. **Son:** God showed his deep love for us by giving His one and only Son. Why did Jesus have to die for you? Discuss.
3. **Son:** In John 14:6, Jesus says, *“I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”* When Jesus made this bold proclamation, He effectively took himself off the smorgasbord of religious leaders. He is not one option among many – Jesus is The Way. How does this proclamation of exclusivity affect your view of Jesus? How does this reality affect your approach when talking with people who are not believers?
4. **Belief:** Matt challenged us that belief in something has three forms: trustworthiness, relevance, and something you put into action or exhibit trust in. Discuss your belief in Jesus. Do you believe in His trustworthiness? Do you believe He is relevant? Do you exhibit trust in Jesus with your actions? If so, how?
5. **Death:** Matt reminded us that death is a physical and spiritual condition that is present (John 3:18-20). Death is not something that is in the future. With this in mind, read and meditate on John 5:24. As a born-again follower of Christ, spend a moment thanking God in prayer for bringing you from death to life! (If you are not born again, ask God in prayer to help you see the trajectory of your life apart from Him.) Discuss what John 5:24 means to you on a personal level.
6. **Death:** Many people in your family or in your circle of friends are stuck in the state of death. Does the reality of John 3:16-21 challenge you to testify of your faith in Jesus Christ? Explain why or why not.
7. **Life:** Matt reminded us the moment we believe in Jesus (in action/exhibiting trust) we move from death to life! Simply put, eternal life starts now for the new believer. Your eternal life is as much about your Monday morning experience as it is about our future in heaven. How does this “eternal life” perspective affect the way you handle your personal spiritual growth/sanctification? Your family relationships? Your work relationships? Your career? Your finances? Everything?