

CELEBRATING THE ABUNDANT LIFE

John 10: 7-11

Many people are in search for a better life. Most of them are looking for better life physically or financially. My formula for life is: "Life equals challenges." It is natural for us to run from the challenges in life that bring us pain and disappointments. Many books have been written to help us receive a better life. Dr. Phil and others are noted for helping others to improve their lives. Before there were books, shows like Dr. Phil, Jesus offered us a better life in today's text.

Jesus told us that He would give us the abundant life. The abundant life that He is speaking of is not materialistic but spiritual. This abundant life Jesus offers us is meaningful, purposeful, joyful and eternal. This life revolves around growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. This means we are in a continual process of learning, maturing and learning, as well as failing, adjusting, recovering, enduring and overcoming. The abundant life helps us to see things from God's perspective. Jesus is the door to abundant life.

Here are three ways that we can celebrate the Abundant Life.

1. The Abundant Life begins with Christ.
 - A. He assures us of His presence (vs. 7-8)
 - B. He assures us of His pasture/peace (vs. 9)
2. The Abundant Life begins through crises. (10a)
 - A. Crises come to distract us from God (Stay focused)
 - B. Crises come to discourage us. (Stay in faith)
3. The Abundant Life begins as a Christian. (10b)
 - A. We can receive abundant light (kindness)
 - B. We receive abundant life (knowledge)