

For many of people life is like a tire with a slow leak. They keep pumping it up but "Life" keeps leaking out and so they go through life missing the fullness of life God created them for. How do we stop life from leaking out?

Lookie Lou's Don't Get It

*"I have come in order that you might have life---life in all its fullness."
John 10:10 (GN)*

We will never breath life into our life without

What Made Jesus So Popular?

"When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick." Matthew 8:16 (NIV)

"And wherever he went--into villages, towns or countryside-- they placed the sick in the market-places. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed." Mark 6:56 (NIV)

His Values?

Matthew 5:3, 10; Mark 10:25; Mt. 18:3-4; Luke 22:26

"If your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell." Mark 9:47 (NIV)

*"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life,
and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:54 (NIV)*

Five Signs I'm Not A Lookie Lou

How To Be A Committed Christ Follower

1. I Am An

*"You do not belong to yourselves but to God; He bought you for a price.
So use your bodies for God's glory." 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (GN)*

2. I Am

"As new babies want milk, you should want to drink the pure milk which is God's Word so you will grow up..." 1 Peter 2:2 (NLB)

"Learn to know our Lord Jesus Christ better." 2 Peter 3:18 (NLB)

3. I Am _____

*“Examine yourselves to see if your faith is really genuine.
Test yourselves.” 2 Corinthians 13:5 (NLT)*

“... get rid of your old self, which made you live as you used to---the old self that was being destroyed by its deceitful desires. Your hearts and minds must be made completely new and you must put on the new self, which is created in God's likeness and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy.” Ephesians 4:22-24 (GN)

4. I Am _____

“They spent their time learning from the apostles, and they were like family to each other. They also broke bread and prayed together... All the Lord's followers often met together, and they shared everything they had... day after day they met together in the temple. They broke bread together in different homes and shared their food happily and freely while praising God. Acts 2:42-47 (CEV)

Three Benefits Of A Small Group

Support one another _____

Build up one another _____

Encourage one another _____

*“Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another. Some people have gotten out of the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that. Instead let us encourage one another all the more, since you see that the Day of the Lord is coming nearer.”
Hebrews 10:24-25 (GN & CEV)*

“So encourage one another and help one another...encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11, 14 (GN)

5. I Am _____

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8 (NIV)

“...do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord...” 2 Tim 1:8 (NIV)

“So you must honor God while you live as strangers here on earth.” 1 Peter 1:17 (NIV)

*“Dear friends, you are foreigners and strangers on this earth.”
1 Peter 2:11 (CEV)*

“... our citizenship is in heaven.” Philippians 3:20 (NIV)

Personal Study - Growth Homework

GETTING STARTED

What has been some of the oddest or strangest foreign customs you have either encountered or read about in your life?

As you get started take some time to find out who has traveled where and to what foreign countries. What were some of the strangest things you experienced while traveling in a foreign country?

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

There is no doubt about it Jesus was different from everyone else. His birth, values, teachings, actions and activities made him different if not one very strange person. Yet people came from everywhere to see and hear him. If Jesus were to come on the scene today doing and teaching the same things he did and taught back then do you think he would be as popular and attractive in today's culture? Why or why not? What do you think would happen?

Many of Jesus' teachings were hard to follow. All of his teachings expected total commitment. The apostle Paul wrote about this commitment in Romans 12:1-2 ...

"Dear friends, God is good. So I beg you to offer your bodies to him as a living sacrifice, pure and pleasing. That's the most sensible way to serve God. Don't be like the people of this world, but let God change the way you think. Then you will know how to do everything that is good and pleasing to him."

The first step and bottom line of a Christ Follower is someone who is no longer in charge of their life. They have turned over the control and direction of their life to God. This is easier said than done. If God loves us why are we so afraid to do this? Why is this so hard to do?

Why is this absolutely necessary if we are going to breath life back into our lives?

Would you agree we often talk the walk but don't walk the talk? Why is that? How does a living sacrifice live? Get real practical with your explanation.

GOING DEEPER

This weekend we said, “Lookie Lou’s never get it” when we looked at six things that describe a committed Christ Follower. What is it Lookie Lou’s never get?

Only when we purpose to live a life of total commitment will we find true freedom. But we will also face difficulty, struggles and challenges to do these six things. What are some of the challenges and struggles we face – you have faced – when we purpose to live out these six things?

Living My Life As An Employee Of God

What does this mean to you – how you live each day?

Educating Myself In The Word Of God

How are you doing this?

Examining My Life And Exchanging The Old For The New

What’s the biggest challenge for you in this area?

Engaged With Others – Living My Life In Real Community

Why can and does this often create fear in us?

Enlightening – Telling Others What God Has Done For Me

Who has God put in your life He wants you to share with?

The three benefits of a small group can only happen in a small group yet many Christ followers never get involved in a small group. Why? What can we do to get more people involved in small groups?

1 Peter 1:17, says, “So you must honor God while you live as strangers here on earth.” 1 Peter 2:11 in the Contemporary English Version says, “Dear friends, you are foreigners and strangers on this earth.” One translation says aliens and strangers. The theme is the same we are to live our life here as if this world is NOT our home. What must you do, readjust in your thinking, to live that way?

Bottom line, what is God saying to you about your commitment through this study?