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THE LIFE EVERYBODY WANTS

"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." (John 10:10 NKJV)

LONGER LIFE. Optimism. Faster healing. Is this the beginning of a vitamin advertisement or a promotion for an herbal diet supplement that will do everything except cover gray hair?

No, it's a description of the life of faith. Studies have shown that people of faith live longer, healthier lives. People who pray and are prayed for get well faster and more often.

Recent research has shown that church attendance helps even sick people feel more optimistic and hopeful, and immune function is enhanced by feelings of togetherness and social interaction.

Of course, that doesn't mean believers never get sick or die, but it shows that what the Bible says about the many benefits of a relationship with God is true. In Proverbs, we see the following: "Let your heart keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you" (Proverbs 3:1-2 NKJV). And in Proverbs 3:16 (NKJV) God promises, "Length of days is in [wisdom's] right hand, in her left hand riches and honor." Many people mistakenly believe that God is angry with them and wants to punish them, but the Bible is full of colorful descriptions of the richness of a life lived close to God. While he is angry at sin and evil, He loves His children very much. In that love, He has provided a way of forgiveness and restoration of our relationship with Him in Jesus Christ.

Jesus came into a poverty-stricken world, a world steeped in darkness of sin. And He came with the most extravagant gift ever given, the gift of His life so that we could have real and vibrant life in living color....

What about You? Are you living a full, abundant life? Not necessarily a busy life or a hectic life, but a life full of people and productivity and purpose? Or do you feel empty, burned out, and used up?

It's not the length of your life; it's the depth of your life that matters. It's not a trouble-free life; it's what you do with the problems and how you respond to challenge and difficulty that counts.

Abundant life is available to you because Jesus wants to add life and vitality to your years. Give Him your days, weeks, months, and years. Give Him all of your life and ask Him to make it an abundant, overflowing, generous life. He wants to do that for you and He will. **AMEN.** ~ Dr. Jack Graham

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:18 - 20

