reTHINK: ME

John 10:7-10 NCV Welcome | Introduction | Open Bibles or App | PRAY

• Q "What is the most exciting experience that you have ever been a part of?"

Do you realize that your best experience in life and my best experience in life is nothing compared to what God can do in and through our lives when we are following after him.

7 So Jesus said again, "<u>I tell you the truth</u>, I am the door for the sheep. 8 All the people who came before me were thieves and robbers. The sheep did not listen to them. 9 <u>I am the door</u>, and the person who enters through me will be saved and will be able to come in and go out and find pasture. 10 A thief comes to steal and kill and destroy, but I came to give life—life in all its fullness. - (John 10:7-10 NCV)

Walk Through The text. — Verse 10 is one of the wildest claims that Jesus makes. He basically is saying is that he is going to give you life beyond your wildest dreams... More life that you can ever uses.

Just think of it this way. Why did Jesus come to earth? To give us life. And when Jesus gives a gift its not junk! It's the BEST. He is trying to give you the life He created you to live.

- Jesus – "I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of." (John 10:10b Msg)

By show of hands - TRICK QUESTION - **How many want to live** the best possible life? The life God created for you to live?

BECAUSE honestly we've all had those moments, days, weeks, moths, or for some years where you just knew that there had to be MUCH MORE TO THIS LIFE!!! Well, there is and I believe today we can begin to learn from the life of Jesus how to live. I mean REALLY LIVE. So Question Is – "What can we learn from the life of Jesus that will help us live better lives for Jesus today?"

JESUS' LIFE TEACHES US THAT WE SHOULD: <u>LIVE</u> PASSIONATELY - committing to living!

• Jesus – "*I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.*" (John 10:10b Msg)

Underline the phrase, "better life." How is your life right now? It may be that your life stinks or that you are living a pretty good life. No matter where you are in life, the Lord wants you to live a better life/a more significant, satisfying & influential life for God's Kingdom. So, what does that require? Well for some it is going to require choosing...

LIFE over DEATH

Have you ever met anyone who thought they were really living & they weren't?

<u>Experiences</u> - Party Scene - Thrill Experiences <u>Possessions</u> or <u>Relationship</u>

It's the difference between the **Meaningless & Meaningful** or the Temporal & Eternal

- I am reminded that in order to live a passionate, peace-filled, purposeful and productive life we must have the Son of God in our lives! There Must be a time when we choose life over death.
- "And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life." (1 John 5:11-12 NIV)

Choosing to follow God's better plan for your life also requires.... <u>TODAY over TOMORROW</u>

How many people have ever seen the old game show LETS MAKE A DEAL? Well, life and the Devil are kind of like that. For so many people what happens is that the Devil acts as the facilitator of the game show of life, & he calls in to make you an offer. He doesn't say that God is offering you a bad deal. What he says is that God's offer is pretty good, but that you need to wait for a better offer before you make a decision. He wants you to put off till tomorrow making the commitment to the Lord & to others that you ought to be making today.

So, let me ask are there any procrastinators in the room? Did you know that in 1978, 5% of the population admitted to being chronic procrastinators compared to roughly 26% of today's population.

• One of the Devil's favorite tricks is to convince us that we need to make a decision or commitment to follow the Lord "some day" rather than today.

JESUS' LIFE TEACHES US THAT WE SHOULD: <u>LOVE</u> FULLY

Look at what Jesus did when He knew He only had a short time with His Disciples.

- "Jesus knew that the time had come for Him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved His own who were in the world, <u>He</u> <u>now showed them the full extent of His love.</u>" (John 13:1 NIV)

If you knew you only had a short to live, wouldn't you want to do the same thing? Wouldn't you want to go the extra mile in demonstrating the love you have for the people you know & love?

Living Fully = Loving Fully

The Lord placed us on this earth to love Him & to love others completely & thoroughly.

- "Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself."" (Matthew 22:37-39 NIV)

Jesus said that the keys to living the best life, to living a full life, are loving God with all our heart, soul, and mind and loving those around us as much or more as we love ourselves.

How do you show someone that you love them? You spend time with them.

Now pay attention to this: When it is all said and done with this life it won't matter how much \$ we have in the bank/how big a house we live in/how many awards we've won or goals we've achieved. All that will matter is, "Did we love God with all our heart, soul, mind & strength, and did we love & cherish & encourage the people God placed in our lives?"

- Jesus – "Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples." (John 13:35)

JESUS' LIFE TEACHES US THAT WE SHOULD:

LEARN HUMBLY - A full & abundant life knows how to be humble You see, even though Jesus was God, He taught us by His own example how to live humbly.

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, <u>did not consider equality with God</u> <u>something to be grasped</u>, <u>but made Himself nothing</u>, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, <u>He humbled Himself and became</u> <u>obedient to death – even death on a cross</u>!" (Philippians 2:5-8)

Think about this, Jesus could have remained in Heaven with all of His splendor & glory, yet He humbled Himself & became a man, taking on the very nature of a servant, & he became obedient to the death on a cross... – What an exam of humility. These vv challenge us to be like Jesus. I wander where in our lives we might need to be a little bit more humble.

One of our primary purposes in life is to become more and more like Jesus.

"From the very beginning God decided that those who came to Him – and He knew who would – should become like His Son." (Rom. 8:29) This past week William and I were in the backyard working.....

- Electrical line, digging hole, "I want to do it myself daddy"
 - William (my 3yr old son)
 - Shovel dirt like me
 - Move heavy boxes like me
 - Talk like me
 - Make weird noises like me
 - Laugh like me
 - Eat the same food like me
 - and much, much, more.....

Who are you trying to be like? I hope it is Jesus!!

SO, "What NEXTsteps do you need to take to become more like Jesus & to learn to live passionately, love fully, and to live humbly?"

Altar Time:

Salvation:

Surrender:

NEXTsteps: Baptism - Reading your Bible - Praying