

Life Matters

Worksheet 1



At different times in our lives, we all have questions that we want answered. Some questions are more important than others. Do you want tea or coffee is an important question, but it will only change your life for a short time! However, the question 'What do you want to do with your life?' or 'What do I want from life?' can be questions and decisions that change everything in your future.

QUESTIONS:

- **What 'BIG' questions are you currently asking?**
- **What do you do and where do you go for answers to these questions?**

In the past year, many people like me, have been asking questions about life. We've had so many things that we take for granted taken away from us. It's been an opportunity to reset and really think about things like, what is important in my life? What things can I happily live without? What is it that really brings satisfaction? If you've managed to answer those questions for yourself, has it changed anything? It's so easy to plan and want to change things isn't it, however it is far more difficult to actually implement change. What is it about us that want change and yet at the same time resist it?

During the past year we've also had the opportunity to see real hypocrisy. I've heard so many people criticizing others about breaking covid rules, whilst not sticking to the rules themselves! Every time I look in the mirror, I see someone who has done that! What is it about us that we can't be consistent even with the rules that we set ourselves?

It is a great privilege that we can have the Bible to give us the answers to why we are the way we are and about what is really important in life.

In Life Matters, we will be considering the book of John in the bible. As one of the '12 disciples', John was an eye witness of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. You may have heard of the 'gospels', Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The word 'gospel' literally means good news. The gospel (or good news) of John is written a few years after the other three gospels. This gives John the opportunity to tell events from the life of Jesus that the other three writers missed out. You may ask, 'is there that much to write about Jesus?' John says 'Yes!'

The last verse of John's gospel is very telling. In chapter 21 and verse 25 John writes **"Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written."**

John is deliberately exaggerating to make an important point. Jesus did many, many amazing things! The things that John saw Jesus do, and the things that John heard Jesus say, transformed the life of this humble fisherman.

QUESTIONS:

- **Think of someone who has entered your life and changed it for the better?**
- **Why did your life change?**
- **What was it about them that changed you?**

Towards the end of his book, John tells us the purpose of his writing. John chapter 20 verse 30 says, ***“Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”***

In this verse, John has told us exactly who Jesus is. John believes that Jesus is the Messiah and the Son of God and he wants you to believe this as well. That is the purpose of him writing all that he wrote. The word Messiah is the same as the Greek word Christ. This is not Jesus' surname but is a description of him and a title. If you have any friends called David who are opticians then they are probably known as 'Dai the eye' or something similar. In a similar way Jesus is presented to us as Jesus Christ.

In the preceding years before Jesus was born, the nation of Israel was waiting for its 'Messiah or Christ'. This word means 'anointed or chosen one'. John writes so that you will know that the anointed or chosen one is Jesus of Nazareth.

John goes on to tell us something that is really outrageous, that Jesus is the "son of God"! This miracle worker whom John followed around for 3 years is not just a human being, but his real identity is that he's the Son of God. What a claim that is. John's aim is that you will believe this and that this belief will lead to something else for you. This 'something else' is that John wants you to have 'life in his name'.

QUESTIONS:

- **How would you describe 'life'?**
- **What do you think the 'life' is that John is referring to?**

How would you like to explore this life in Jesus Christ that John wants you to know? This is your opportunity and invitation to do that. There are currently millions of people around the world who have experienced what life in Jesus Christ is really like. Why not commit to spend some time for the next few weeks exploring this for yourself? These videos and studies will be appearing twice a week and we will attempt to answer any questions you have via our email address info@lfec.org

In the next two videos and studies, we will consider who Jesus really is, his real identity. We will consider the evidence that John presents us with. Look out for these videos on YouTube, Facebook or on our website, www.lfec.org