

## Share Life

### 4th of July

### Definition of Marriage

Review for those not present.

### Introduction

1st month/each quarter- focus- mission statement

**Encounter God, Love People, Share Life**

This month- Share Life- define terms ...

### Share

Share- to ...

- give a portion of something to someone
- enjoy something jointly w/another person
- possess something in common w/others
- tell someone about something
- facebook- post/re-post something

For our purposes ...

**Share is to take of something I have been freely given and give it to another person to bless them.**

To Share Life ...

**To Share Life is to see every person experience the greatness of God through their own personal encounter.**

Share Life- is people caring for people.

When we take time to Share Life we let people know that we care/God cares.

### Life

Life- big Bible word/filled with meaning.

God- Father- source of all life as we know it ...

**Gen 2:7 Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.**

**There is no possibility for life of any type to exist when God withholds His breath- this directly contradicts evolution.**

In the very beginning God planted the Tree of Life in the garden with Adam/Eve.

God is the originator and sustainer of all life ...

**Job 34:14–15**

**14“If He should determine to do so, If He should gather to Himself His spirit and His breath,**

**15All flesh would perish together, And man would return to dust.**

God the Father took His life/gave it to His Son ...

**Jn 5:26 “For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself;**

Then God granted- Jesus would give life to us ...

**Jn 10:10 “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.**

Jesus is ...

**Jn 6:48 “I am the bread of life.**

**Jn 8:12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.”**

**Jn 11:25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who**

**believes in Me will live even if he dies,**

**Jn 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.**

God has given to us both natural life/eternal life.

When we believe in Jesus- receive eternal life ...

- present sense ...

**Jn 5:24** “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

- future sense ...

**Jn 6:40** “For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.”

Since Jesus was God in human flesh, He made life a reality for us today- not a distant truth.

**Jesus demonstrated what it means for a man to live on this earth filled with the life of God.**

The entire Gospel of John was written ...

**Jn 20:31** but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

We serve a Great God who ...

**Rom 4:17** (as it is written, “A father of many nations have I made you”) in the presence of Him whom he believed, even **God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.**

As Abraham/Sarah were as good as dead- God gave them a child- they brought forth life.

He will do- same for areas of our lives that- dead.

Jesus gave up His natural life so we can experience eternal life/resurrection life.

This life from God is a vibrant, energy filled, life.

**The life from God is free, but there is diligence required on our part to sustain the vitality of that life.**

Parable of Virgins- waiting for Bridegroom ...

**Mat 25:2-3**

**2“Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent.**

**3“For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them,**

**Mat 25:7-9**

**7“Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.**

**8“The foolish said to the prudent, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’**

**9“But the prudent answered, ‘No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’**

We need the fresh oil of God’s Spirit every day.

We need to constantly trim- wicks of our life so we- ready to respond when God calls on us.

Jesus made a very profound statement ...

**Mat 4:4 But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.’”**

For- earthly life- be successful- must involve God. To live we must eat/drink of God’s Word/life.

In Hebrews- talks about God raising up ...

**Hebrews 7:15–16**

**<sup>15</sup>And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek,**

**<sup>16</sup>who has become such not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life.**

Eternal life- we have been given is indestructible-  
devil/death- has no power against eternal life.

**Romans 8:38–39**

**<sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,**

**<sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**We are called to be Dispensers of Eternal Life**

We are called to be those who release God's life-

**2 Cor 2:15–16**

**<sup>15</sup>For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing;**

**<sup>16</sup>to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life. And who is adequate for these things?**

Who can release resurrection life into the world?

... only those who possess resurrection life.

Whose responsibility-release resurrection life- us!

We are to be- aroma in the world from life to life.

**Romans 12:6–8**

**<sup>6</sup>Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith;  
<sup>7</sup>if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching;  
<sup>8</sup>or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.**

This is not a complete list- you fall on this list somewhere- you have been given life to give. There are many people around us that need help.

**Love only grows by sharing. You can only have more for yourself by giving it away to others. (Brian Tracy)**

Parable of the talents- he who had five, faithful with them, made five more- was given more.

Philemon small book in the Bible ...

**Personal letter to Philemon- successful man, hosted a house church-had slaves. One of slave escapes- Onesimus- ends up in Rome, meets Paul, gets saved. Onesimus realizes, as Christian- he must make things right. Paul knew Philemon- writes a letter to him/receive Onesimus back as a brother in the Lord.**

Look at Philemon ...

**Philemon 4–6 (NIV84)**

**4 I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers,**

**5 because I hear about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints.**

**6 I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.**

We often do not share life w/others because- feel inadequate/lack knowledge/nothing to offer.

**v6** Paul is saying if we share life w/others we will grow in our understanding of what we have.

**The more outward our focus becomes the deeper we will grow in our understanding of God and this incredible life He has given to us.**

When we are not sharing life- leads to- lukewarm walk with God- we lose passion/focus.

When we pray/encourage people, we let the river of God's life flow through us to others.

When you touch the life of another person you get to participate in their divine story.

This builds up your faith as well as theirs.

**House Church: pray for someone at end. Encourage everyone to ask God for something for that person.**

### **Challenge**

You do not know how to share- go to a HC and learn to give what you have to others.

Practice giving away life.

When we release life ...

lives are changed

we add value to others

we participate in their divine story

Untitled, 11/9/13

our life will change  
we will grow from faith to faith ourselves  
we will gain an outward focus  
resurrection life will be released.

When we release life to others it reminds us of  
what God has given us/makes us grateful.

## July 4th 2015 Comments

7/4- we celebrate our nations independence.

John Adams (2nd Pres), letter to wife ...

**This day (July 4, 1776) will be the most memorable epic in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival.**

During a debate- constitution- Ben Franklin said-

**Gentlemen, if it is true that not one single petal from any flower falls to the ground without escaping God's attention, will the distress of this nation go unheeded? Let us therefore determine to seek His face.**

56 men fell to their knees- pray/seek God.

What if-president/congress/Supreme Crt- prayed?

Christians- time to reflect on our greater freedom.

Many have given their lives for- national freedom.

Both- national/spiritual freedom- very costly.

John Witherspoon, a signer of The Declaration ...

**God grant that in America true religion and civil liberty may be inseparable.**

President Thomas Jefferson said this ...

**The 1st amendment has created a wall of separation between church and state, but that wall is a one directional wall, it keeps the government from running the church, but it makes sure that Christian principles will always stay in government.**

Freedom is not free ... national or spiritual.

May God bless the United States of America.

## **Supreme Court Decision to Redefine Marriage**

5 unelected justices-redefine marriage for nation

The court ignored ...

- the plain meaning behind the Constitution
- what is self-evident in biology and logic
- collective wisdom of thousands of years of human history
- rule of law/will of 51 million people in 39 states who voted to define marriage as between one man and one woman.

This ruling is- direct attack on- religious freedoms.

As a church, we can not embrace the ruling of the Supreme Court as the law of the land.

This ruling does not change the Biblical understanding of marriage/sexual morality ...

- Scripture defines marriage as the union of a man and a woman
- Scripture prohibits same- sex intercourse
- Marriage is not simply a cultural issue  
it is part of w/gospel itself- marriage- picture of- union- Christ/church.

We must continue to stand for truth- both with ...

- conviction and yet with kindness
- truth and with grace and love

No matter how different we will be from culture- we must never fear our mission- be light/salt.

There is still great hope for nation- we have recovered before from times of social/political division in the past- we can recover again.

Pray for a great spiritual awakening!