

# Church of Christ

## ... Heart to Heart ...

With our recent burglary here at the church and having our computers taken, we can see the disturbance and harm it causes. The words of Jesus came to my mind, “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they might have life and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10) A thief never has good intentions! The devil is the greatest thief of all. He promises “greener pastures” in every aspect of life, only to steal, kill and destroy the lives of people. The “thief” promises to make one happy over here and there, only to steal their lives away. The “thief” has no interest in your well being, only seeing you destroyed. You see it happen in marriages where people, who once loved each other, turn to cold, godless attitudes, only to watch their marriage destroyed because the “thief” got hold in their lives.

Jesus came with a different purpose: To give life and for us to live in His life abundantly. Jesus won't steal from us, kill us or destroy us. He came that we could share in His life, possess His life and enjoy His life no matter what is happening around us. John tells us, “He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.” (I John 5:12)

The life of Jesus is different from human life. When we entered Jesus, our old self was done away with (Rom. 6:3-7). Jesus infused His life within us. The life of Jesus gives us that ability to walk above the things in the world. It gives us the power to rise above our circumstances and overcome, rather than being overcome. It's God at work in you (Phil. 2:13). The life that Christ gave us is eternal life (I John 5:11). It's not the future of heaven, even though we are promised that, but it's the life of God that's eternal. Those in Christ, sincere and humble, with penitent hearts, possess that life now. In fact, that life is ours in abundance. It's the life that produces within us the things of God. We grow as a result of that life, just as we continually grew into the result of death before we came into Christ. In death, separation from God, we grew in misery, hate and selfishness. In the life of Christ, we find love and peace, the product of God. In life we give up of ourselves for the sake of others. When we are confronted with difficulties, life gives us comfort and peace within to deal rightly.

Those who refuse the will and ways of the Lord remain in death (John 5:40). Life is only found in Christ and His life is seen in our lives as we live for Him. What about you? Where do you live and walk? Think about it!!!

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