

THE LIFE JESUS OFFERS

(John 10:10)

I. A Father.

- a. Christians have an abundant life because we have a Father who will never leave us.
- b. If your father is still alive, you ought to be glad.
- c. If your father is still around you, you ought to be glad.
 - i. There are many children who have a father who has left the home.
 - ii. Some have a father who is physically present but might as well be a million miles away.
- d. I know that to teenagers, dads know nothing.
 - i. I was talking with someone the other day about one of the boys and what they needed to do to get better at something and I asked that person to tell him what he needs to do because it will take hold better from someone who isn't his dad.
 - ii. It's amazing how smart my dad got after I got some age on me.
- e. But whether you still have a physical father or not, you have a spiritual one.
 - i. This is a Father who sees all (Hebrews 4:13).
 - ii. Paul said that he bowed his knees before the Father (Ephesians 3:14).
 - iii. John said we could see how great a love the Father has bestowed on us (1 John 3:1).
- f. One who has the abundant life Jesus offers has a Father who will never forsake us.

II. A family.

- a. Christians have a family that, as long as we desire the Father, will desire us.
- b. Notice all of Ephesians 3:14.
 - i. God the Father has a family.
 - ii. Some have gone on from this life and some are still here.
 - iii. A Christian is part of a worldwide and heavenly family.
- c. One of the great aspects of being a preacher is that you get to meet a lot of Christians when you go preach other places.
 - i. Sometimes you never meet people again once you leave that congregation.
 - ii. Others pop up from time to time.
 - iii. Some become very close to you.
 - iv. No matter how much or little time is spent with them, they are a part of your family and there is a great connection there.
- d. You can go thousands of miles away and meet Christians from foreign lands and they are your brothers or sisters in Christ.
- e. Everyone needs a family.

- i. Did you know that 42% of adults in America live without a spouse?
 - ii. 12 million over the age of 65 live alone.
 - iii. Roughly one in every four households in America is a single individual.
 - iv. You aren't alone if you're a Christian.
 - v. Or, at least you shouldn't be.
- f. Times will come, and have come for some of us, when having a family who will lift your name up in prayer, encourage you, or support you, will be worth more to you and me than anything this world has to offer.

III. Forgiveness.

- a. As Christians, we have forgiveness that has no limits (Ephesians 1:7).
 - i. I know that I preach to people who have sinned and still do.
 - ii. I know that you know that I have sinned and still do.
 - iii. We all have needed and continue to need forgiveness.
 - iv. 1 John 1:8.
- b. Memory is a blessing in many ways, but it can also be a curse because we often remember those times of sin and weakness in the past.
 - i. It may be of bad words or unkind acts.
 - ii. But the great news found in the gospel is that we can be forgiven.
- c. The Old and New Testaments are filled with examples of people of God who sinned terribly and were forgiven wonderfully.
 - i. Moses committed murder but ended up leading the people of God.
 - ii. David committed adultery but was known as a man after God's own heart.
 - iii. Saul was a persecutor of God's people and became Paul a preacher of the gospel.
- d. Think about the genealogy in Matthew 1.
 - i. 46 people are named and four of them are women.
 - ii. A harlot (Tamar), an adultress (Bathsheba), another harlot (Rahab), and a Moabite woman (Ruth).
 - iii. All of them forgiven and were allowed to have a part of bringing in the Christ to the world.
- e. No matter how grievous a sin we may commit, we can obtain forgiveness (1 John 1:9).
 - i. Moses and David committed murder.
 - ii. Abraham and Isaac lied.
 - iii. Peter lied.
 - iv. All of these obtained forgiveness and we can as well
- f. 1 John 2:12.

IV. A future.

- a. As Christians, we have a future that has no end.
- b. So many people would give everything they have for a future.

- i. They know their time on earth is short because of disease.
 - ii. All of us are going to die, but some know their time is very limited.
 - c. As a faithful Christian, when your time is short here on earth, you can know that you have future that is forever.
 - i. Paul knew it (2 Timothy 4:8).
 - ii. This future involves no more pain and suffering.
 - d. Christians shouldn't live life longing for death.
 - i. However, we don't have to fear death the way so many do.
 - ii. We have a future that is glorious and eternal.
 - e. The night before being put to death, Sir Walter Raleigh penned these words:
 - i. Here in the dark and silent grave,
 - ii. When we have wandered all our ways,
 - iii. Is shut up the story of our days.
 - iv. But from this earth, this grave, this dust,
 - v. My God shall raise me up, I trust.
 - f. Paul penned words of hope when he wrote... (1 Corinthians 15:52-53).

Sermon outline from an unknown source