

Sermon Title . . . . . **The Best Life**

Sermon Text.. . . . . **John 3:16**

**The Best Life**  
**John 3:16**

Invocation Scripture. . John 10:10

Main Idea : John 3:16 gives a clear pattern for the best life that anyone can live.

Objective : **To help members see and realize that we are the ones that choose the life we will live and we should choose God’s life.**

What a wonderful day! Our annual church picnic. How many times do we get to be together in the out doors, hear the birds singing, the wind in the tree’s. Feel the warmth of the sun and in general, just enjoy the wonders of God’s creation?

Think about it beloved, this is the context of many of the events of Christ’s life. Much of His teaching was done out doors. Teaching from a boat on the sea side, teaching large crowds on the side of a hill, encounter and ministering to people in a busy street, at a quiet well...

Jesus spent much time surrounded by the beauty and wonder of this amazing planet we call earth!

A beautiful day, good Christian friends, a wonderful picnic lunch to come, hymn singing, a hike in the woods, maybe some games... Wow... It just doesn’t get any better than this... Many would call this, “The Good life!”

And in fact, that is exactly what I want to talk to you about today beloved. LIFE... L. I. F. E.

I have entitled our message today, The Best Life, this came to me the other morning as I was running and the text for the message today.... 1 verse. 1 incredible, magnificent, Bible verse, perhaps the best known Bible verse in all of the world will be our focal passage...

Perhaps it’s our Wednesday night study that

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**The Best Life**  
**John 3:16**

**Point I : Love God Completely..... John 3:16a**  
*For God so loved the world*

**Point II : Invest in His Kingdom Completely... 16b**  
*that He gave His only begotten Son*

**Point III: Faith in Christ Completely . . . . . 16c**  
*that whoever believes in Him should not perish,*

**Point IV: Evangelize your world Completely... 16d**  
*but have eternal life*

prompted this verse, where we are looking at “Encounters with Jesus” and are now studying this very passage where Nicodemus comes to Christ. Well... take your Bible and let’s turn there and we will read

< < < **Read: John 3:10-21** > > >

Wow.. Beloved, what a marvelous passage, what incredible spiritual truths! But go back with me and consider John 3:16 and 17... Verses that provide for us the definitive statement of the true heart, the true nature, the true being of the Almighty God of the Universe.

What does it say... “*For God so loved the world*”

Does that give you chill’s? Say it with me...

“*For God so loved the world*”

The first thing I want you to consider this morning, if you want to experience the Best life is found right there in that verse.

**Point I : Love God Completely..... John 3:16a**

*For God so loved the world*

God loves us... look around beloved. You can see his love in everything! An amazing, miraculous, marvelous and wonderful world! You can see His love in the way he designed a man and a woman to be able to share life together, to love one another, to experience closeness, intimacy, warmth, security, peace...

If you want to “**Live the Best Life**, beloved, then you and I must **love God completely!** That’s right, you

heard it. We must learn to **Love God Completely!**

This is something that will take intentionality on our part. We’re not born loving... In fact, we are born incredibly selfish. All we know is that we have needs, we don’t even know what they are, but mom starts to feed us and all of a sudden one need is met, she wraps us in a blanket and cuddles us so that we feel warm and safe and other needs are met.

Take any of that away, let our little tummys get hungry or our little bottoms get poopy and we start to cry and scream to have OUR needs met.

And such it is. Mom, Dad and the rest of the family begin to teach us after a while that the world doesn’t revolve around us, that we are not what we think we are, ie. The center of attention. We “LEARN”, we l

od loved us so much, He sent His son, that is complete love!!

1 John 4:10 *In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

And that is the way we need to learn to LOVE Him!

**We need to Learn to Love God Completely!!**

Now you hear me friends and hear me well. If a man or woman or young person loves God completely, then they will love everyone else correctly and... and... hear me... completely!!

This is the **FIRST** step to the “**The Best Life**” But there is a second step. Look back at John 3:16.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son*

### **Point II : Invest in His Kingdom Completely... 16b**

*that He gave His only begotten Son*

Did you hear that... God’s love, was not just a tacit verbal statement... God’s love was active! His love was love in actual deed!!

**It’s one thing to say you love someone, but it is another thing to actually show that you love someone!**

You can tell what anybody loves, by how they treat what they love.

A man that loves hunting takes incredible care of his guns and knives. He cleans them, oil’s them, practices with them, they sit in solid walnut cabinets or in display type glass cabinets.

A woman that loves collecting figurines, same thing, she has a book with them all listed in it, a glass, lit curio cabinet for all to see!

Am I right?... You know I am....

And yet... how many men and women have sat in front of me to be counseled as a couple and most often the woman says, “*he doesn’t love me*” he says, “*yes I do*” she says no you don’t, he says, “*yes I do*”... She then says, “*well... you never show it!*”

Been there men?... How about it ladies?..

**That’s just the point beloved, what you love, is where you spend your time, your money and your effort!**

It’s where you have the most of who you are and what you are invested!!

So to live “**The Best Life**” we need to Invest in God’s Kingdom Completely!

That’s right! All of who we are, what we are and where we eventually want to be **MUST** be invested in God’s Kingdom. We need to learn to invest ourselves in His Kingdom, His Will and His purposes!!

How do we do that....

Pray, Study, Meditate, Act!

Pray daily, but you need to pray some specific things.

1. God to reveal yourself to me.
2. Help me to give you full control of my life
3. Drive selfishness out of my life
4. Your will and purpose be done in my life

*(Let me repeat those)*

Now the next point, may not be as clear to you, but when you think about it you will see it immediately!

Look at the next phrase of John 3:16

*that whoever believes in Him*

### **Point III: Faith In Christ Completely . . . . . 16c**

Did you hear that... *whoever believes in Him...*

Listen beloved, if you want to live “**The Best Life**”,

you **MUST** have faith in Christ and in Him Alone and in Him Completely.

Think about that for just a second. If you believe in something, then you “*put stock in it*” “*you trust it*” “*you pattern your life buy it!*”

There is no other more important aspect of the Christian life. **There is no Christian Life without Faith in Christ!**

Jesus Christ left no room for any other options. John 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."*

THAT LEAVES NO OTHER OPTION...

**There is nothing more important than FAITH in Jesus Christ!**

Without Faith in Christ, there is no future hope, no moral guidelines... Life becomes a tragic plight where much can be gained in knowledge, skill and ability, to be lost to death, without future hope.

Listen beloved, I think we can safely say that “**The Best Life**” can only begin, once a person has accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Without Him, you **CAN NOT** experience the “**Best Life**”

This really leads me to the final point this morning, L we can only experience the Best Life if we love God completely, I we can only experience the Best life if we Invest in Kingdom Work Completely, F, we can only experience the Best Life, if we have faith in Jesus Christ, and finally, E the Best Life is experienced as we

seek to reach out and do what Jesus did, to share the truth of God’s love and His sincere desire and perfect effort to provide for the restoration of the souls of any and all who will believe!

The fourth though this morning then... To experience the “**Best Life**” we must Evangelize our world completely... Not the whole, world, there is no way that any one of us can do that... but OUR world, the world we live and work in, the people with whom we rub shoulders every day.. Our family, close and extend, our friends and coworkers and those with whom we so often have a quick contact. Look back at the text,

**Point IV: Evangelize your world Completely.. . 16d**  
*that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life*

Listen beloved, if the most important thing for you or for me is to come to faith in Jesus Christ, then it stands to reason that this is true for every other person in the world!

If that’s the case, and I believe that it is, we have our priorities out of place!

I fear that the evidence and statistics indicate that the church may be more worried about, buildings, budgets and programs than it is about hundreds of thousands of people in a 100 mile radius of our churches who sleep in on Sunday, who, cut the grass or

do yard work, or who go to the Mall or stadium, rather than see a need for spiritual growth and development.

I can't tell you how many times I drove past the new 24 theater movie complex there in Hampton Virginia... in fact, I watched it be built, and then in sad dismay, watched as it's parking lot every Sunday night, had more cars in it than Liberty Baptist Hampton, one of the largest Churches in Virginia.....

This impressed upon me the incredible need and the vast numbers of people who are untouched, unreached by the church. Jesus reminds us of the urgency of getting the message out beloved!!

John 4:35 *"Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest.*

### **Now I know that Paul writes in Romans 10:14-15**

*How then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? {15} And how shall they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GLAD TIDINGS OF GOOD THINGS!"*

But hear me beloved... hear me... Don't forget that Peter reminds every individual believer in (1 Pet 2:9-10

*But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; {10} for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.*

The clergy can't win the world beloved... but the church can!! We as clergy can and should do our part, but listen beloved, there are far too few "believers" doing their part!!

We must grasp the truth dear friends, that to live and to enjoy "The Best Life," we need to understand, embrace and appreciate that

(John 3:16-17 NASB) *"...God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. {17} "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him."*

Then we will understand that to really live **The Best Life**, means that we must

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So... I challenge you and I challenge me today.... Let us embrace the love of God and love Him back, let us Invest in His Kingdoms work and purpose fully and completely, let our faith not be in man, but in Christ and Christ alone, and let us with passion, with fervor and with the Love of Christ, reach out and touch our world every day!!

Will you do it?... You can... and He will help you too!!

Let us pray.