

April 2, 2013

EXTREME FAITH

Life in 6 words

What is life and
what if you had to
define your life in
only
6

Words.

What words would you
choose?



LIFE IN 6 WORDS

What is your life based on?

Life in 6 words is the challenge, how would you define your life or any life for that matter in 6 words, no more no less?

It's not that the number six is the perfect number or anything, it's just a number and it's a challenge. So what do you build your life on? What are the foundational words that grant your life the purpose and the full completeness that we all long to see in our lives. If we looked at a list of words that define our life what words would attract us and draw us to them? What words would we stay away from and not want in our list? Words have power, words have the ability to bring life or death, to our lives. So what six words would you use to define life...

John 10:10 says **The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.**

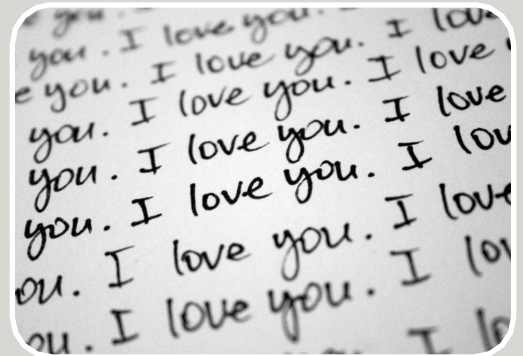
Jesus lays it out real clear for us in this verse, He sums up the state of the world. The thief, statn he can only do what he does and that is kill, steal, and destroy. There is nothing else for him to do. he can

do these things in many different ways, but in the end he never ever brings anything good. he is a real enemy. he is your enemy and he seeks to bring you down any way that he can, any way that you will let him...

Jesus on the other hand clearly states what His role is, and what He brings to us. In Jesus we find life, we find life to the full. Life to the full can be different for all of us yes, but is there a life to the full that we all can share? How you define life to the full might not exactly be the same as your best friend, it might not be the same as Jesus defines it. Life to the full, it is real and it is common for all of us because we can all have it through Jesus!

It is common to all of us through Jesus but it is not exactly the same for each of us.

So as you think about it, who has the most impact in your life right now, the thief, or Jesus? Is your life being lived out to the full or is it being destroyed? What six words are you building your life on?



What are the words that you hear coming from God? What does God say to you. God cries out to you in action and words. He seeks to bring life to the full to you and He did this by giving up His one and only Son, so that you might know Him. Do you know Him? Do you listen to Him? Do you hear Him? What Six words would He use to build your life upon?

Knowing Who God Is, Tells Us Who We Are

Why are you striving these days
Why are you trying to earn grace
Why are you crying
Let me lift up your face
Just don't turn away

Why are you looking for love
Why are you still searching
As if I'm not enough
To where will you go child
Tell me where will you run
To where will you run

'Cause I'll be by your side wherever you fall
In the dead of night whenever you call
And please don't fight these hands that are holding you
My hands are holding you

Look at these hands at my side
They swallowed the grave on that night
When I drank the world's sin
So I could carry you in
And give you life
I want to give you life

And I'll be by your side wherever you fall
In the dead of night whenever you call
And please don't fight these hands that are holding you
My hands are holding you

Here at my side wherever you fall
In the dead of night whenever you call
And please don't fight these hands that are holding you
My hands are holding you

'Cause I, I love you
I want you to know
That I, yeah I'll love you
I'll never let you go, no, no



This song is featured on the Over and Underneath album by Tenth Avenue North

DEFINE

What defines your life, if you took away all the stuff that really doesn't matter what would be left? Life in SIX words defines your life and sets you on a course with focus and vision. How do you define your life? Do you define your life by what others say or think or do you define your life by you say, or by what God says.

When you look at life and how you define it, don't push it to the side and think that it does not matter, it does matter! What you think about life and what you define your life by means so much. We need to look to God and see how He defines our life, and seek His truth we need to know how God Defines Life and we need to see that there is more to it than what we have accepted!

Define your life, and put it in motion!

Think About it

Words have power and they define the very foundations of our lives. Jesus used words to heal, to raise the dead, and to show the world who God is. Jesus mixed words with action, and with conviction. Jesus never spoke a word that He did not mean, He spoke love and then He backed up His words with death on a cross, but death could not conquer Him. His life and His words brings life to us all! What are your words...?

Building Your Life, What's the Foundation?

Think about it what is the foundation of your life? When was the last time that you thought about the foundation of your life? I bet the last time you thought about the foundation of your life was probably when your life was in crisis or you were worried about something.

That's the truth isn't it, we tend to only think about the things that are foundational when our foundations are shaking. I once heard someone say that the point of a good foundation is not having to think about the foundation. I get the point of the statement but thinking about and growing your foundation is key to keeping a strong and healthy foundation.

Jesus had something to say about foundations in Matt. 7:24-27 we have the story of the wise and the foolish builder. 24 Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

We need to think about our foundations and the words that we tend to build our lives on. It really matters, take

sometime this week and think about the words that your life is built on.



If you don't think about your foundations for your life you could find your life being swept away when the storm waters come crashing in.

What is your life foundation?

What is your Big Picture?

What is the point of your life?

Great questions to think about and process this week...

TAKE SOME TIME AND JOURNAL.

Look it over, read the story again, dig into the questions and write out your thoughts...

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is a small tab or fold at the top left corner. The paper appears to be part of a notebook or a set of loose-leaf papers.

MODERN EXTREMES

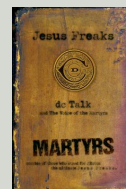
"A Christian Is Chosen by Jesus Christ" Kehdi Diba j Iran 1944

"What kind of men are these?" wondered Nikolai Khamara, "They show joy while suffering. They sing in very dark hours. When they have a piece of bread, they share it with someone who has none. Morning and evening, they fold their hands and speak to someone whom no one can see. As they do, their faces shine' For months, Khamara had watched the Christians who shared his cell in the Communist prison. Unlike the believers who were in prison for refusing to deny their faith in Jesus, Khamara was there for crimes he had committed. Arrested for robbery, he had been sentenced to prison for ten years. He described himself as "a man with no conscience." One day, two of the Christians sat down with Khamara. He told them the sad story of his life and finished by saying, "I am a lost man." One of the Christians asked Khamara, "Suppose somebody loses a gold ring. What is the value of that gold ring when it is lost?" "What a foolish question!" Khamara replied. "A gold ring is a gold ring. You have lost it, but somebody else will have it." "Then what is the value of a lost man?" the Christian asked. Answering his own question, he continued, "A lost man, even one who is a thief or an adulterer or a murderer, has the whole value of a man. He is of such value that the Son of God forsook heaven for him and died on the cross to save him." Khamara understood. The Christian said to the robber, "God loves you. You are valuable to Him. "When Jesus met drunkards, robbers, prostitutes, or others who had committed great sins, He never asked them what sins they had committed. Instead, He told them, 'Be of good cheer. Your sins are forgiven.' I also

tell you, Khamara, that your sins are forgiven because Jesus died for you. You only have to believe." Khamara became a Christian. When he finished his prison term and was set free, he joined the underground church even though it was in constant threat from the KGB. He became a faithful member of his local congregation. Some time later, the pastor of Khamara's church was arrested. The authorities beat and tortured him, hoping he would tell the names of the church members and give them information that would help them stop the printing of Gospel booklets that had been circulating throughout their province. He was tortured, but he told them nothing. If he had, thousands of his fellow believers would have been arrested. After he had beaten the pastor repeatedly without success, the captain of the investigation said, "We will not torture you anymore. We have another method." They arrested Nikolai Khamara. They brought him before the pastor and told him, "If you do not tell all the secrets of your church, we will torture Khamara in front of you." The pastor could not endure someone suffering for him. He asked Khamara, "What should I do?" Khamara said to him, "Be faithful to Jesus and do not betray Him. I am happy to suffer for the name of Christ." The captain said, "We will gouge out Khamara's eyes." The torturers picked up a knife and started toward Khamara. The pastor could not bear it. He cried to Khamara, "How can I look at this? You will be blind!" Khamara replied, "When my eyes are taken away from me, I will see more beauty than I see with these eyes. I will see the Savior. You remain faithful to Christ to the end." When he had finished,

seeing that the pastor had not yet given them the information they wanted, the captain turned to the pastor again and said, "If you do not betray your church, we will cut out Khamara's tongue." In despair, the pastor cried, "What should I do?" Khamara's last words were, "Praise the Lord Jesus Christ. I have said the highest words that can be said. Now, if you wish, you can cut out my tongue." Khamara died a martyr's death.

Let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from start to finish. He was willing to die a shameful death on the cross because of the joy he knew would be his afterward. Now he is seated in the place of highest honor beside God's throne in heaven. Think about all he endured when sinful people did such terrible things to him, so that you don't become weary and give up, Hebrews 12:1-3 NLT



Featured Story
from the book
Jesus Freaks do
Talk and the
voice of the
Martyrs



Living life with
Extreme faith
and
Extreme vision

**EXTREME FAITH
MAGAZINE**

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