

A Good Life Needs More Than Good Luck!

By Karen Sue Nyquist



God has the answer! He offers us more than a good life, He offers us an abundant life! How?

A. The God of the Bible offers this life through His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

An Abundant Life!

B. What does an abundant life consist of?

1. Love God -> Life - "Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment'" (Matthew 22:36-38). "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him (*Jesus Christ*) should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). It's easy to love God because, "God is good" and "God is love" (Psalm 100:5; 1 John 4:8).

2. Love Family -> Laughter - "... have fervent love for one another, for love will cover a multitude of sins" (1 Peter 4:8). "He (*God*) will yet fill your mouth with laughing" (Job 8:21).

3. Love America -> Liberty - God supports patriotism. He said, "I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing" (Genesis 12:2). "He is deserving for he loves our nation" (Luke 7:5). Thank You, God, for giving us this great nation where we have the liberty to choose or not to choose to love and serve You. "... where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" (2 Corinthians 3:17). God's Spirit is in America!

4. Love Others -> Legacy - Jesus said, "And the second (*great commandment*) is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself' (Matthew 22:39-40). "... as we have opportunity, let us do good to all" (Galatians 6:10). That's a legacy of good works, loving and helping others.

C. How can we receive the strength, the power to live an abundant life?"

1. Trust in God. The Lord God is a good god. "For the Lord *is* good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth *endures* to all generations" (Psalm 100:5). God says, "Fear not, for I *am* with you; Be not dismayed, for I *am* your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you..." (Isaiah 41:10). "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

2. Believe in Jesus, God's Son, as Your Lord and Savior. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). Believe that Jesus died to pay the penalty for your sins (1 Corinthians 15:3) and receive Him as your Lord and Savior (Romans 10:9-10). Then "... grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

3. Receive God's Holy Spirit. Jesus said, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you" (Acts 1:8).

4. Walk in the Power of God's Spirit. God said, "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*" (Ezekiel 36:27). "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7). We need to turn away from our sins, doing things that are wrong, and walk in God's way, following Him.

God has the answer! He offers us more than a good and abundant life, He offers us a powerful life! "His (*God's*) divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us *exceedingly great and precious promises*" (2 Peter 1:3-4).



A Powerful Life!

D. As we yield to God's Holy Spirit, His power works in us.

1. **God's power will work inside us.** "Now to Him (*God*) who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us" (Ephesians 3:20). "I can do all things through (*Jesus*) Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might" (Ephesians 6:10).

2. Four Blessings God's Power Will Do:

a) It'll save us - "if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9-10). We'll not be condemned and perish because of our sins, we'll be forgiven! (Acts 2:38).

b) It'll heal us - "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up (*heal him*)" (James 5:14-15).

c) It'll deliver us - "He (*God*) has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love" (Colossians 1:13). This deliverance is from the power of sinful habits and attitudes and from the power of demonic forces. God's power will be transforming us into all that we were meant to be.

d) It'll help us have a full, abundant, and powerful life - "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13). "that you may be filled with all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:19).

E. God's power will work through us, so we'll have a powerful life that helps others! "And He (*Jesus*) said to them, 'Go into all the world and **1) preach the gospel** (*good news*) to every creature (*person*). He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name **2) they will cast out demons ... 3) they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover** (*be healed*)'" (Mark 16:15-20).

F. Suggested Prayer: "God, Our Heavenly Father, I believe You want to give me an abundant, powerful life, through Jesus Christ. I now receive Jesus as my Lord and Savior. I repent of my sins and ask You to forgive and cleanse me (1 John 1:9). I need Your power in my life to overcome my sins. Please, fill me with Your Holy Spirit and give me Your power, so I can be a better person and so I can help others. Help me learn how to share the gospel of Jesus Christ, heal the sick, and cast out demons. In Jesus' name I pray, amen!"

Name _____ Date _____

G. Congratulations! Now, to steadily improve your relationship with God and His Son Jesus, spend time with Him. Start praying to Him. Read the Bible, where He reveals Himself even more clearly so you can get to know God better. Get baptized in water and get filled with His Holy Spirit (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38).

H. Come and See! Come visit our church where you can feel the presence of God and the Bible is preached. Come and see the power of the Holy Spirit demonstrated. Apostle Paul said, "And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in **demonstration of the Spirit and of power**" (1 Corinthians 2:4). We would love to help you have an abundant life and grow in your faith and power. **We hope to see you soon!**

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