

Discovery

MAY 2011



Eternal Life

Stories • Puzzles • Jokes • Readers' Response • Serial and more...



From the
Editor

“What is eternal life?

A special and new quality of life that a person starts when they accept Jesus is the son of God. This new life will be with Jesus always.

So, even after we die on earth, we will continue to live with Jesus. Do we know this for sure? No. No one has come back to tell us it is true, but we believe

this to be true because the Bible talks about eternal life ...

do you want to have eternal life with God or without him?

It's a choice we all have to make ”

Wendy

***The first step to eternal life is,
You have to die...***

God so loved the
world that He gave his
one and only Son,
that whoever
believes in him
shall not
die but
have eternal
life.



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John 3:16 Crossword



This crossword contains the following words taken from John 3:16.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

See if you can find where they fit in the spaces.

Eternal Life

By Janet Fleming 

In the following verses, what does the Bible tell us about eternal life?

1. We can _____ that we _____ eternal life. **(1 John 5:13)**
2. Eternal life is a _____. **(Romans 6:23)**
3. Eternal life is found in God's Son, _____. **(1 John 5:11)**
4. Eternal life is a _____. **(1 John 2:25)**
5. Eternal life is _____ God and Jesus. **(John 17:3)**
6. Eternal Life comes through _____ in Jesus. **(John 3:16)**
7. If we turn away from Jesus we do not have _____ life. **(John 3:36)**

Now take the letter in the space that is underlined the darkest and fill the spaces below in the order they are given to find what kind of life we can have.

Do you have eternal life?

10

important questions to consider (See if you can help answer them by completing the missing letters)

By Julia Martin 

1. What is eternal life?

It's living forever with G ____.

"Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." John 17 : 3

2. Where does it come from?

Eternal life comes from God and is given as a free g ____.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6 : 23

3. How do we get it?

We receive eternal life by placing our faith and trust in Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord.

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life." John 5 : 24

4. When does eternal life begin?

The moment we believe in Jesus, new life b ____.

Though our bodies die in this life, our eternal life continues forever.

"And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son." 1 John 5 : 11

5. What is eternal life like?

By knowing God and following J _____ we can have a wonderful life here and now, even though things aren't perfect; but in the next life, there will be no sickness, pain, sadness, evil or death.

"... no eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him." 1 Corinthians 2 : 9

6. Can anyone receive eternal life?

Yes, it's offered to e _____.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3 : 16

7. Can we lose our eternal life?

Not if we're truly born again into God's f _____. Jesus said, "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand." John 10 : 28 Jesus went on to say that, "no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand." V, 29. So it's guaranteed and we're doubly secure!

8. Do many people have eternal life?

Jesus described the gate as small and the road as narrow that leads to eternal life and only a f ____ find it. Matthew 7 : 14

This doesn't mean it's hard to become a Christian, but that there is only one way to live eternally with God and that's through believing in Jesus Christ. Despite what people may think or do, there is no other way.

9. How can I be sure I have eternal life?

If we truly believe in God's Son, we have eternal life. Our assurance is not based on our feelings and hopes but on the facts and promises of God's W ____.

"He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life." 1 John 5:12-13

10. What's the alternative to eternal life?

If we reject Jesus Christ and what he's done for us, we will never have eternal life, but instead we'll face God's w _____ and everlasting punishment.

"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him." John 3 : 36

So, are you sure you have eternal life?

Can you honestly say you've committed your life to Jesus Christ and you trust him as your Saviour and Lord? If you've made this important decision, then you can know with certainty that you have eternal life. But if you're unsure, give it some urgent thought today and maybe ask a Christian friend to help you.



A Soldier gives up his life for his friends.

During World war 2, some British soldiers were taken captive by the Japanese, and made to work very hard building a railway track through the jungle in Burma.

One day, the Japanese guards discovered that an axe was missing from the storeroom. Naturally, they thought that one of the British soldiers must have stolen it.

The camp Commander lined all the British soldiers up and asked for the man who had stolen the axe to step forward, because they were going to take him away and shoot him. Nobody moved.

"Very well" the Commander said. "I will give you one last chance. If the soldier who stole the axe doesn't step forward right now, I will choose one soldier at random and shoot him instead. Then, if the guilty soldier still doesn't own up, I will keep on shooting other men until he does so. Will the soldier who stole the axe step forward now." A soldier took one step forward. He was taken away and shot.

Sometime later, the guards checked on the storeroom again. To their surprise they found that all the axes were present! They had made a mistake the first time they had counted. Nobody had stolen an axe. That British soldier had not stolen an axe. In fact, he had done nothing wrong. What he did do was give up his life so that his friends might live!

What do you think the other British soldiers thought of their friend when they found out he had given his life that they might live? If, in some way, they could have communicated with him, what do you think they would have said? I think they would have said something like this. "Words cannot express how grateful I am to you. You gave your life for me. Now I am going to give my life over to you. Wherever you want me to go, I will go. Whatever you want me to do, I will do." I think that would have been the natural response.

What a wonderful act it was for that soldier to give up his life for his friends. But do you know that Jesus gave up his life for you BEFORE you were His friends (Romans 5.8). What is your response to Jesus? Do you say "so what" or "who cares." I know what my response was. As soon as I realised that Jesus had died for me, I said to him, " Words cannot express how grateful I am to you. You gave your life for me. Now I am going to give my life over to you. Wherever you want me to go, I will go. Whatever you want me to do I will do."

ONE-TWO word-finder



A	D	O	G	K	S	E	O	D
B	E	G	I	N	N	I	N	G
E	S	N	H	O	L	I	F	E
F	I	I	O	W	H	I	O	F
O	M	T	P	L	C	N	E	A
R	O	S	E	E	I	E	O	I
E	R	E	M	D	H	H	D	T
N	P	R	I	G	W	T	N	H
O	F	E	T	E	R	N	A	L

Find the words in the wordfinder above to fill the spaces below. The first word is in the shaded square. Some letters have been included to help you get started. Some words are used twice.

___ F ___ ___ K ___

R _____

E _____, W _____

_____, _____,

P _____ B _____

B _____.

From Titus 1:2



PUZZLE TEXT

Solve this puzzle by recognizing the picture in each square then taking away the letters with a '-' in front of them, then adding the letters with a '+' in front of them to create a new word. Some pictures won't need a new word created. Squares with letters will need unscrambled

<p>---</p> <p>4</p> <p>-U</p>	<p>---</p> <p>dgo</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-RE</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-----</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-RE +HE</p> <p>---</p>
<p>---</p> 	<p>---</p>  <p>+T</p>	<p>---</p> <p>3</p> <p>-TRE</p> <p>--</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-C +G</p>	<p>---</p> <p>6</p> <p>-X +H</p>
<p>---</p> <p>1</p> <p>---</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-H</p> <p>---</p>	<p>---</p> <p>NYOL</p> <p>---</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-U +O</p> <p>---</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>+T</p> <p>---</p>
<p>---</p>  <p>-SS +WVER</p> <p>---</p> <p>-</p>	<p>---</p> <p>LIBEVESE</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-B</p> <p>--</p>	<p>---</p> <p>IMH</p> <p>---</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-E +A</p> <p>---</p>
<p>---</p>  <p>-K</p> <p>---</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-NCL +RSH</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-E</p> <p>---</p>	<p>---</p>  <p>-ND +VE</p> <p>---</p>	<p>---</p> <p>NLEATER</p> <p>-----</p>
<p>---</p>  <p>-GHT +FE</p> <p>---</p>	<p>---</p> <p>NOHJ</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>---</p> <p>EREHT</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>---</p> <p>SEVRE</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>---</p> <p>XTISENE</p> <p>-----</p>

ANSWER: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3 verse 16

AWARDS

Congratulations for years completed...

1

Kara Baxendine
Toby Braun
Ava Copland
Lucy Creak
Emma Detlefsen
Anne Downs
Peter Downs
Micah Gibson
Evie Perks
Josef Sutton

2

Crystal Dalbeth
Joseph Kilepak
Cole Kinley
Garth Kinley
Sarah McDonnell
Samantha Staniforth

3

Zacharias Gaundar
Michelle Khan
Jessica Mitchell
Liam Mitchell
Joel Mitchell
Estella Riley

4

Jessica Adams
Olivia Smits
Lucille Smits
Edgar Smits
Anita Sopers
Anne Wright

5

Grace Hince

6

Bethany Ferguson
Jasmin Harrison
Geoff Procter
Amanda Procter
Timon Warren

7

Rachel Baptista
Whitney Harris

8

Kelly Hall
Savanah Tohu

9

Andrew Crowsen
Jennifer Share

10

Paul Crowsen
Michael Peach

12

Krishna Bola

22

Cathy Gallagher

45

Bevan Dick

BIBLE READINGS

May

DATE	BOOK	VERSE
1 Sun	1 Peter	3:8-22
2 Mon	1 Peter	4:1-11
3 Tue	1 Peter	5:1-14
4 Wed	Psalms	46
5 Thu	Luke	24:13-27
6 Fri	Luke	24:28-35
7 Sat	Ezekiel	34:11-19
8 Sun	Ezekiel	34:20-31
9 Mon	John	10:1-10
10 Tue	John	10:11-21
11 Wed	Psalms	23
12 Thu	John	21:1-14
13 Fri	John	14:1-14
14 Sat	John	14:15-25
15 Sun	John	14:26-31
16 Mon	John	15:1-10
17 Tue	John	15:11-17
18 Wed	Psalms	49:1-15
19 Thu	John	21:15-2
20 Fri	Matt.	4:18-22
21 Sat	Luke	9:18-20
22 Sun	Luke	22:24-34
23 Mon	Luke	22:35-46
24 Tue	Luke	22:47-62
25 Wed	Psalms	27:1-8
26 Thu	John	20:11-18
27 Fri	Matt.	28:16-20
28 Sat	John	21:1-4
29 Sun	Psalms	24
30 Mon	Luke	24:44-49
31 Tue	1 Cor.	15:1-8

Readers' Response



"Hey kids - this is YOUR page - so send in (original materials) your favourite joke, one of your own poems or prayers, a letter or a question about being a Christian and it might end up here!!"

Email: info@biblediscovery.org.nz

or write to us: 888 New North Road, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025

Alix Davies (11 yrs) wants to know the answer to this question:

"If God knows what is going to happen, how come He made the Devil? Wouldn't He want us to live in a sin-free world?"

That's a great question Alix and the answer is probably difficult to understand.

- 1. Yes, God knows what's going to happen*
- 2. He did not make the Devil.*
- 3. Yes, he wants us to live in a sin free environment (heaven!)*

Let me explain:

God created Lucifer as a perfect angel, with a free will. God gave Lucifer a certain amount of power and authority, but Lucifer perverted it by wanting to be greater than God. God did not create him evil. He made a devil out of himself and he wants us to follow him. In fact, he got a third of the angels to do just that!

God would not destroy Lucifer because it would also destroy man (man was created perfect, but Adam also made a choice to disobey and so sin entered the nature of man). God had a better way. A way of Redemption - Jesus.

God has given us all free will because he loves us and even though he sees us make mistakes in the future he allows us the freedom to make our own choices. We must make the choice - to accept the redemption that Jesus offers us, or to follow Lucifer and put ourselves above God. Jesus wants us to join him to worship God, Lucifer is on earth and wants us to rebel against God. What will you do? Ed.



Read these verses to help:

Ezekiel 28:12-15, Isaiah 14:12-14, Luke 10:18, 1

John 3:8, Revelation 12:9, Romans 3:23, Romans

5:12, Romans 8:1, Romans 10:9

Puzzle Verse:

Work out this verse from the clues provided. Write the answer underneath.

4    +d the 

th+@   -r  

only  +gotten  , th+@

  +  +ever  +  N

    +ish, but 1/2

 

John 3:16

Baby Erik and the Old Man

By GEORGY

We were the only family with children in the restaurant. I sat Erik in a high chair and noticed everyone was quietly eating and talking. Suddenly, Erik squealed with glee and said, "Hi there." He pounded his fat baby hands on the high-chair tray. His eyes were wide with excitement and his mouth was bared in a toothless grin. He wriggled and giggled with excitement.

I looked around and saw the source of his excitement. It was a man with a tattered rag of a coat; dirty, greasy and worn. His trousers were baggy with the zip half down and his toes poked out of would-be shoes. His shirt was dirty and his hair was uncombed and unwashed. His whiskers were too short to be called

a beard and his nose was so varicose it looked like a road map.

We were too far from him to smell, but I was sure he smelled. His hands waved and flapped on loose wrists. "Hi there, baby; hi there, big boy. I see ya, buster," the man said to Erik.

My husband and I exchanged looks, "What do we do?" Erik continued to laugh and answer, "Hi, hi there."

Everyone in the restaurant noticed and looked at us and then at the man. The old geezer was creating a nuisance with my beautiful baby. Our meal came and the man began shouting from across the room, "Do you know peek-a-boo? Hey, look, he knows peek-a-boo."



Nobody thought the old man was cute. He was obviously drunk. My husband and I were embarrassed. We ate in silence; all except for Erik, who was running through his repertoire for the admiring man, who in turn, reciprocated with his cute comments.

We finally got through the meal and headed for the door. My husband went to pay the cheque and told me to meet him in the car park. The old man sat poised between me and the door. *"Lord, just let me out of here before he speaks to me or Erik,"* I prayed.

As I drew closer to the man, I turned my back trying to side-step him and avoid any air he might be breathing. As I did, Erik leaned over my arm, reaching with both arms in a baby's "pick-me-up" position. Before I could stop him, Erik had propelled himself from my arms to the man's. Suddenly a very old smelly man and a very young baby embraced in a loving way.

Erik in an act of total trust, love, and submission laid his tiny head upon the man's ragged shoulder. The man's eyes closed, and I saw tears hover beneath his lashes. His aged hands full of grime, pain, and hard labour-gently, so gently, cradled my baby's bottom and stroked his back. No two beings have ever loved so deeply for so short a time. I stood awestruck. The old man rocked and cradled Erik in his arms for a moment, and then his eyes opened and set squarely on mine.

He said in a firm commanding voice, *"You take care of this baby."* Somehow I managed, *"I will,"* from a throat that contained a stone. He pried Erik from his chest-unwillingly, longingly, as though he were in pain. I received my baby, and the man said, *"God bless you, ma'am, you've given me my Christmas gift."*

I said nothing more than a muttered thanks. With Erik in my arms, I ran for the car. My husband was wondering why I was crying and holding Erik so tightly, and why I was saying, *"My God, my God, forgive me."* I had just witnessed Christ's love shown through the innocence of a tiny child who saw no sin, who made no judgment; a child who saw a soul, and a mother who saw a suit of clothes.

I was a Christian who was blind, holding a child who was not. I felt it was God asking – *"Are you willing to share your son for a moment?"* – when He shared His for all eternity.

The ragged old man, unwittingly, had reminded me, – ***"To enter the Kingdom of God, we must become as little children."***



Scriptures

How can I know there is a God?

Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

Are we worthy?

Psalms 14:1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they have committed abominable deeds; There is no one who does good.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.

Then are we doomed?

John 3:16-18 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 3:36 "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;

See also: *Romans 8:1 Mark 10:45 Acts 17:30 Romans 5:19 Romans 5:21 1 Corinthians 15:22 Titus 2:11*

What should we do then?

Acts 16:30 and after he brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" 31 They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

Mark 1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

John 6:28 Therefore they said to Him, "What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?" **29** Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent."

How should we live?

John 14:15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

John 15:12 "This is My commandment, that you love one another, as I have loved you.

Matthew 7:12 "In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Romans 13:10
"Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilment of the law"

Will it change our lives?

Matthew 11:28 "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. **29** "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. **30** "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

John 10:9 "I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. **10** "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. But beware, you will be tested!

Acts 14:22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."

The Greatest

John 3.16.

By Maurice Sweetsur

God (The greatest person)

So loved (The greatest extent)

The world (The greatest company)

That He gave (The greatest act)

His one and only Son (The greatest gift)

That whoever (The greatest opportunity)

Believes in Him (The greatest simplicity)

Shall not perish (The greatest promise)

But have (The greatest certainty)

Eternal life (The greatest possession).





*“For the grace
of God has appeared,
bringing salvation
to all men”*

John 2:11