

begin living in his kingdom, under his rule, using his power and authority.

This week I invite you to see if you can find other people, so you have a group of ten including yourself. Together watch and discuss the presentation. Tap into The Spirit, as you ask Jesus about life, your joys and sorrows, your struggles and successes. If you're up for it give me a call this week so that we can be in it together.

Seek to be living in the life giving presence of the Holy Spirit, who Jesus has sent to be his representative. Take the time to share from the heart with Jesus. Then seek to listen as you ask Jesus to share from the heart; stopping and grabbing that first thought, idea, impression, name. Why wouldn't it be Jesus? Then ask if anyone would like pray; ask Jesus to reveal what he

would say and then share what you receive with them.

Jesus invites you to live life with him, in his power and authority, in his light, living out his love.

Who knows what the future holds?

You do now; your very life depends on it.

What are you doing; ignoring life or investing yourself in life?

Jesus claims to be the life, the way and the truth. Why not talk with him today? Accept his offer and follow him into

a life beyond your wildest dreams. In Jesus your best is yet to come. Invite Jesus in, accept his offer and be living life today, into tomorrow, forever. In Jesus that is your future; life lived in his love and affection, in a conversational atmosphere, where you get to live out his supernatural love, naturally.

24 May 2020

**EASTER—7**

Acts 1:11



Who knows what the future holds? Is it important?

At the present time I know lots of people who love sport don't know what to do because they don't know what the future holds.

I'd say that it is very important to know what the future holds.

If I told you that on the 31<sup>st</sup> May this year there would be an earthquake of such a magnitude that it would completely destroy every home where you live. Would knowing the future shape your actions?

I'm sure it would shape mine. I'd make sure I'd have packed up my belongings, everything valuable and moved to a safe place. I'd have told all the people I know and anyone who'd listen, so they too could save themselves.

I think knowing the future is vital.

What does your future hold? How does that shape the way you live today? I invite you to pause and take time to reflect on how the future shapes the way you live today.

Here's a truth about your future. You may have heard this many times, or this might be the first time. Here it is; Jesus will return, to judge all people. The world as you know it is coming to an end, and that end will occur when Jesus returns.

That is what the angels told Jesus' disciples as they looked up into the sky as Jesus rose and disappeared from their sight. The angels said; "Why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way

you have seen him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11)

Jesus promised return shapes my life. It reminds me not to waste my life chasing after things that don't last. Why should I invest my life in death, when I can invest my life in life? Jesus is alive, today, and that very living, breathing person is the exact one who will return so that we can continue life with him.

Do you want to invest in death or in life?

I love the fact that Jesus hasn't only revealed himself to us, but also his plan for the future. And Jesus plan for the future is life; life lived with him, with Father, with The Spirit, in a relationship of love and affection, in a conversational atmosphere, where their love, their supernatural love is lived out by us quite naturally.

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**Christ Church Lutheran**

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am  
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

Jesus is inviting you to join him in his life; life lived today, tomorrow, forever.

Isn't that what Jesus is inviting us to share; the hope of life in him.

In Jesus our future isn't a dead end, but a life lived to the full with him. So Jesus has commissioned us to go and invite people to join him to live in his kingdom of life. We live in the season of opportunity; Jesus is returning, we all have the possibility of sharing life with him today, tomorrow, forever.

Jesus' kingdom is one of life; life lived to the full with God.

The apostle Paul prayed; "that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at

his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in this present age but also in the one to come." (Ephesians 1:18-21)

Wow, what a passage of hope God hands us. Jesus our king has the power and the authority

### Jesus: "I'll Be BACK"

to do what he says. Jesus, our living, breathing king, is now at work, and will return to judge the living and the dead. His passion is that all people come to live with him in his kingdom of life, of light, of love.

What an opportunity. What a future we have in Jesus.

In Jesus I'm not going to die and come to nothing, I'll simply wake up with him. I'll be living life with all the horrors and limitation that we have at present gone.

Wow, Jesus today is reminding me that the life I have now isn't as good as it gets. Think of the best day you ever have had, and then apply Jesus promise; your best is yet to come. Wow, I'm looking forward to that. Life lived beyond my wildest dreams; life lived in Jesus wildest dreams.

In Jesus, we'll transition to a wonderful new life, where I get to walk and talk with him person to person, living out that intimate relationship of love and affection that he's given his life to make a reality.

This isn't an empty dream, for Jesus has given his life that what he promises will be a reality. Jesus crucifixion has put me in a right relationship with God. Jesus resurrection displays his victory over death. His return will usher in all he promises.

In Jesus, what a future we have. And Jesus send the Holy Spirit; God in person, to give us a taste of that future today. We get a taste of his love, or his forgiveness, of his

kingdom life, live out in his power and authority.

I've also noticed in life that I get a taste of the opposite; feeling lost and alone, isolated, unloved, worried, confused, hopeless. These things what to rob me of life, and they certainly do if all I've got is my ability to cope. If all I've got is a dead end for the future.

Finish six foot under, is that it. Are we just complicated food for worms? What a life sapping thought.

You die and that's it; soon to be forgotten, your time on earth amounted to what? Gone, forgotten, rotting, as if you didn't exist. Who would want that to be reality?

Thank God, Jesus is returning. Returning as king; you will not be forgotten, you are Father's loved child in whom he delights. Your life isn't worthless, you get to live out and taste God's love for you, you get to share life with him and begin growing to maturity, bringing his hope, life and love to others. Your future isn't

to rot and decay, but to rejoice in Jesus presence, to exude life in all his fullness.

That's Jesus' promise.

And Jesus' birth, life, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension tell me he has the power and authority to do what he says. Jesus isn't lying, giving false hope. Jesus can and will do what he

### Jesus is returning as KING

says; you can risk your life on him.

Actually that's what all people are literally doing; risking their lives. To believe in Jesus is to risk your life; seeking to walk with him, to talk with him to follow him.

To risk believing Jesus can't do what he promises you're risking ending in death. Your best will have past you. Your life with have come to nothing, for that is what death is, a dead end. Your identity will be lost, and love will lie in you as cold as a stone.

To risk believing Jesus can't and won't do what he said; where does that leave you?

If you choose to live trusting in your own power; what does your future say about your own power. How many people do you know who will die? What does your future say about your own power?

Jesus invites you to trust in him and his victory over death. To begin living that victory today as you follow him, taking him at his word.

Jesus invites you to talk with him and follow his advice in every aspect trusting he wants you to have life; life lived to the full in him.

Why do it my way, when death is the obvious outcome?

Why not accept Jesus' offer and live life his way; with life, light, love the joy you get to live; daily, unending?

Next week we celebrate the festival of Pentecost; Jesus breathing The Spirit into us so that we have life lived in his power and authority. We