

## 1-22-2025... Come Alive to Jesus– praying for friends and family

### Who prayed for you to come alive in Jesus?

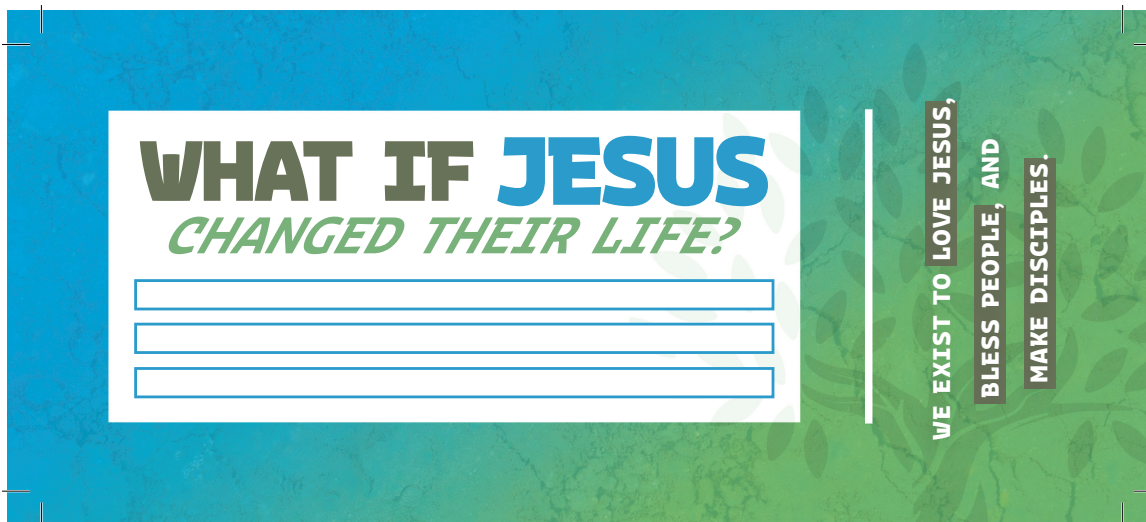
Paul says in Ephesians 2:1-10 that we ALL once lived resistant, rebellious and un-responsive to God. We were following the world, flesh, and devil according to Paul in verses 2-3. Then Paul describes an amazing shift. ***“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (vs.4-5)...By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are God’s masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us that we should walk in them (vs. 8-10).***

Jesus used this same language in John 10:10, and when he gives Paul his life assignment in Acts 26:18

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

“I am sending you to them <sup>18</sup> to **open their eyes** and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.” Acts 26:18

Today we prayerfully select 3 people who we love and long to see come alive in Jesus. Pray and ask your heavenly Father who he would like you to intentionally and consistently pray come alive in Jesus. Then jot their names on the card below, and tuck in your bible or hang on your bathroom mirror as a reminder to pray for them. Then go on to part 2 below.



**WHAT IF JESUS**  
*CHANGED THEIR LIFE?*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

WE EXIST TO LOVE JESUS,  
BLESS PEOPLE, AND  
MAKE DISCIPLES.

**Good News...** Heavenly Father is already working in their life, so it's not all up to you! <sup>44</sup> *No one is able to come to Me unless the Father Who sent Me attracts and draws him and gives him the desire to come to Me, and [then] I will raise him up [from the dead] ...* John 6:44 Amplified Classic translation.

Your job is to love and bless them and be available to share the good news of the Gospel, as opportunities arise. Previously we highlighted what Paul said in Ephesians 2:10 that we are God's Masterpiece, created to do good works – that God had lined up in advance. Some of those good works are in the lives of your family and friends and coworkers and neighbours!

**Who loved and blessed and shared their lives with you so that you could see the goodness of Jesus?** For me and most, there are lots of people who played an important role in my moving from resisting Jesus to coming alive to Jesus. They all had several things in common – they loved me, prayed for me, and desired that I would experience the goodness of God, and receive Jesus into my life as my Lord and Savior. The apostle John put it like this in John 1:12 *"Yet to all who did receive him (Jesus), to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God"*. But becoming alive to Jesus is only the start as God desires that the rest of our time on earth we follow Jesus, become like Jesus, and join Jesus in seeing others come alive and advance His Kingdom on the earth.

Here is a paraphrase of a prayer you can pray for your VIP's. "Father, strengthen \_\_\_\_\_ with your power through Holy Spirit in their inner being, so that Jesus may dwell in their hearts through faith – that they would be rooted and grounded in love, and may have capacity to comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of Jesus love for them so that they would know it in their souls and hearts and minds and experience" (paraphrase of Ephesians 3:14-19). Below are some practical suggestions to love & bless.

1. Pray for 3 people far from God.

2. Engage relationally.

3. Ask questions to hear their story, and share yours.

4. Enjoy a meal together.

5. Ask them if you can pray a blessing.

6. Keep prayerfully asking ... "Father, how can I join you?"

WE WANT TO PARTNER WITH YOU AS YOU INSPIRE PEOPLE TO FOLLOW JESUS.