

Stayin' A.L.I.V.E.

Eph. 2:1-10

- 1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,
- 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.
- 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.
- 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,
- 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.
- 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,
- 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.
- 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—
- 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.
- 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Colossians 2:12-14

- 12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.
- 13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,
- 14 having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.

Colossians 3:1-3

- 1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
- 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.
- 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

A.L.I.V.E.

I. A – Annihilate wrong motives!

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

KJV - "I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly."

Life – Zoe' – Vine's Expository Dictionary – "Life in the absolute sense, life as God has it; that which the Father has in Himself and which He gave to the Incarnate Son to have in Himself."

John 10:11-12

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

12 The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it.

Eph. 4:11-13

He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor-teacher to train Christ's followers in skilled servant work, working within Christ's body, the church, until we're all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God's Son, fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, **fully alive** like Christ.

Isaiah 43:18 "The Lord says, `Forget about what has happened before. Do not think about the past. Instead, look at the new things I'm going to do. "

Galatians 3:4 "You have experienced many things. Were all those experiences wasted? I hope not."

II. L - Live in faith!

III. I – Incarcerate wrong thoughts!

2 Cor. 10:5 - We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Proverbs 4:23 "Be careful how you think. Your life is shaped by your thoughts."

"Romans 12:2 - "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

IV. V – Value God’s opinion above all others!

Zechariah 4:6 - “You will not succeed by your own strength or power but by My Spirit, says the Lord.”

V. E – Eliminate all excuses!

- 1. Excuses justify the need to not change.*
- 2. Excuses validate mediocrity.*
- 3. Excuses are self-focused.*
- 4. Excuses are a part of the language of victims.*
- 5. Excuses breed a culture of hopelessness.*

Philippians 4:13 - “I can do everything through him who gives me strength.”

- 6. Excuses put success out of reach.*

Proverbs 28:13 “A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them he gets another chance.”

Annihilate wrong motives!

Live in faith!

Incarcerate wrong thoughts!

Value God’s opinion above all others!

Eliminate all excuses!