

# Embracing the Ultimate Life: Why Following Jesus Christ Unlocks the Greatest Life You Can Imagine!

By Craig Manners

In a world that's constantly throwing curveballs—stress from work, family worries, financial hurdles, and those unexpected heartaches—it's easy to wonder, "Is there a way to truly thrive, not just survive?"

What if I told you there's a cause so powerful, so life-changing, that it turns every challenge into an opportunity for joy, purpose, and unbreakable hope?

Well, there is! That cause is: following Jesus Christ!

Imagine a life brimming with freedom, laughter, deep connections, and a sense of adventure that never fades. Jesus isn't just an historical figure or a set of rules; He's the living Savior who promises true abundance right here, right now, and for eternity.

As you dive into this exciting journey, inspired by timeless truths from the Bible and real-life wisdom for modern living, you'll see why following Jesus is the smartest, most exhilarating course for anyone craving a great life. Get ready to be uplifted—your best days are ahead!

Jesus is the ultimate guide to a worry-free, purpose-driven life.

Picture this, you're juggling bills, parenting stress, or career pressures, and anxiety creeps in like an uninvited guest. But Jesus steps in with a game-changing principle from Matthew 6:33: "But seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Wow, what a promise! Instead of fretting over tomorrow's unknowns, Jesus invites you to prioritize a relationship with Him. And the best part? He's not distant; He's right

there, ready to provide everything you need.

I've seen this play out in countless lives, including my own since 1998. People who shift their focus to Jesus find doors opening, needs met in surprising ways, and a peace that defies logic.

My family and I saw the reality of this time and time again when we were living in Malawi, and it led to an unshakeable strengthening of faith in Jesus and the truths of the Bible.

Whether you are a long-time believer or just newly interested, give trust a try. Trust Jesus to provide and coordinate your life.

If you do not know Jesus as your Saviour yet, simply reach out to Him in faith and say, "Jesus, I want to know you as my Saviour, please save me", and watch how He responds.

It's like flipping a switch from stress to serenity. Following Jesus means trusting Him with your daily bread, literally and figuratively, and discovering that life's provisions flow naturally when you're aligned with His kingdom.

No more endless striving; just joyful pursuit of what's eternal. So what if something doesn't work out the way you thought it should. Who is in control of everything that happens? Who knows best, you or Jesus? That's the great life kicking off strong!

Building on that foundation, let's celebrate how Jesus transforms every situation into something good, yes, even the tough ones!

Romans 8:28 bursts with optimism: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love

him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Isn’t that incredible?

When you follow Jesus, you’re not promised a trouble-free ride (this is a fallen world, after all), but you’re assured that He’s the master orchestrator, weaving every thread, joys, sorrows, triumphs, and trials, into a beautiful tapestry of growth and blessing. He knows every move possible in your life and every move leads to the best possible outcome, whether we understand it now or not.

Think about it: that job loss? It might lead to a dream opportunity. A marriage stress or family conflict? It could deepen bonds like never before. Even that unexpected death of someone we love. Yes, even that, as painful as that is, will be used for the good of those who love and trust Jesus Christ.

By loving Jesus and cooperating with His plans, you tap into divine purpose that refines you, strengthens you, comforts you, and draws you closer to Him. No more fighting against the current; instead, ride the wave with excitement!

People who embrace this truth report skyrocketing resilience and gratitude. Why? Because Jesus calls you according to His perfect purpose—one tailored just for you, full of adventure and impact.

I can testify to the presence of daily gratitude for what Jesus has done in my life for just over 10,000 days now, since Jesus saved me and changed me forever. I am not saying I am perfect, that only comes when we are in heaven, but I am grateful that Jesus saved me.

Grateful that when God looks at me on that day, when I stand before Him to face judgement for my earthly life, He will not see me, He will see His Son Jesus Christ, who died on that cross for me, paid the price of my sinful life, so that I can be set free to live with Him for eternity in heaven.

So, dive in, love Him fiercely, and watch “all things” turn for your good. Following Jesus isn’t about perfection; it’s about progress in His loving hands. What a thrilling way to live!

Now, here’s where it gets even more empowering: recognizing that God, through Jesus, is in complete control, turning potential disasters into divine victories!

Genesis 50:20 captures this epic turnaround beautifully, as Joseph tells his brothers, “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”

Joseph’s story is like a blockbuster movie, sold into slavery, falsely accused, rising to power, all under God’s sovereign hand. And guess what? The same power is at work in your life today!

When you follow Jesus, you align with the One who holds the universe in His grip. Bad intentions from others? Jesus redeems them. Unexpected setbacks? He flips them for your flourishing.

This isn’t passive resignation; it’s active trust that fuels boldness and peace. Jesus echoes this in teachings like turning the other cheek (Matthew 5:39), not out of weakness, but from a place of strength, a place of trust, knowing the bigger picture.

Why waste energy defending petty offenses when you can defend the vulnerable, go the extra mile, and show love instead? Leave revenge to God; He’s the ultimate justice-bringer.

Easier said than done? Absolutely, but striving for it builds character and frees you to live vibrantly. Imagine waking up each day knowing Jesus is steering the ship. Storms may rage, but you’ll sail through with His guidance.

Sign me up for that adventure every time!

But wait, there’s more uplift coming your way. Jesus promises that all the pain and sadness we face is temporary!

An eternity of pure joy awaits! Revelation 21:4 paints this dazzling future: “And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”



Wow! In a world of many heartaches, following Jesus shifts your gaze from the temporary to the eternal. As 2 Corinthians 4:18 reminds us, "For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

That breakup, that loss, that disappointment? They're passing shadows compared to the radiant reality ahead. What is sad now, will no longer be sad.

One of my all-time favourite Christian writers, Charles Spurgeon, nailed it when he said "the glorified weep no more because all grief's causes vanish." Broken friendships, poverty, persecution? Gone!

Even earthly death of loved ones will not be sad forever. Death after all is Jesus' way of bringing His people into His presence for eternity.

If your loved ones know Jesus too, then it is only a relatively short period of time before you get to spend forever with them. So, pray and trust the One you are praying to. Jesus is trustworthy and He is loving.

And even now, in the midst of trials, Jesus infuses hope, making the unseen eternal shine brighter.

Following Him means viewing every moment through this lens: temporary troubles paving the way for triumphant eternity. What an invigorating perspective for a great life!

As we wrap up this exhilarating exploration, let's zoom in on why Jesus is hands-down the best cause to follow for a truly great life.

In Temcare's inspiring work, helping families thrive since 1968 through practical support like Christmas and food hampers, camps, sporting opportunities, respite care, mentoring, and friendship, we see glimpses of Jesus' love in action.

But the real game-changer? Eternal hope in Him!

John 3:16 says it all: "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."

As J.C. Ryle wisely put it, "Let us see in every sorrow and trouble of our earthly pilgrimage, the hand of Him who gave Christ to die for our sins. That hand can never smite us except in love. He who gave us His only begotten Son, will never withhold anything from us that is really for our good. Let us say to ourselves in the darkest hour of trial, "This also is ordered by Him who gave Christ to die for my sins. It cannot be wrong. It is done in love. It must be well."

So, how do you get this adventure, this life of purpose, this eternal joy? Well, thankfully it is not dependent on anything we have to do. We could never earn it and we certainly don't deserve it.

It is completely free and freely given. Just call out to Jesus and ask Him to save you. That's it. Then follow Him, and leave the rest to Him. It is that simple. Just pray something like, "Jesus, save me and lead me."

The thing is that it is Jesus, through His Holy Spirit, who actually brings you to this point. It is not you. So, if you do call out to Him to save you, you can't even resist it, and nothing can stop it or take it away from you once you have it!

Then enjoy the adventure, join a Bible believing local church, read the Bible regularly, connect with believers. Following Jesus isn't rocket science; it's the rocket fuel for your earthly life and your eternal soul.

He doesn't just save you either. He has a purpose for you! "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:10).

Your great life starts now, go and change the world, one joyful step at a time!

Please visit our website at [www.temcare.org.au](http://www.temcare.org.au) to learn more and join us as we change lives together.

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