

When we speak of "life" it can refer to the (mere) continuation of biological existence (drawing air into our lungs and keeping blood moving in our bodies). We can also speak of life as something more transcendent - peace, joy, fulfillment, love. Jesus says: Life is more than food and clothing (Luke 12:23). When Jesus offers "life" to his followers, it goes beyond adding minutes, hours, or days to physical life. He brought the hope and fullness of life as the substance of his gospel (the good news of the kingdom). In Genesis, we see that God spent five days of creation preparing the ATMOSPHERE for mankind to live, flourish and be fruitful, multiply, exercise dominion and subdue the earth. On the 6th day God breathed life into humans (Gen 2:7) - the point here being - there is NO LIFE without DIVINE POWER! God doesn't just redeem life or raise people from the dead (like Lazarus - John 11 & 12); every living plant, tree, fish, koala, panda and human owes their existence to the life-giving God (Gen 1:30; Ps 104:29). Lord, we thank you for being YOU - our author, creator and giver of life - thank you that we can have LIFE and life IN you (Christ) our saviour and abundant life-giver!

PRAY & DECLARE: 'For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory. All glory to him forever!'

LORD may your glory rise upon us as we stand in prayer. My body is, and we are, the temple of your Holy Spirit and we will stand at the altar of incense to worship and pray to you. We come boldly before your throne of Grace and declare you are the giver of all life. Let your life-giving Spirit fill us and empower us to overflowing. I declare 'You anoint my head with oil and my cup overflows and runs over with your goodness and mercy! May my heart be filled with the words of LIFE and TRUTH. Use me to speak forth the words of life - faith, hope and love to everyone around me this week - my spouse, family, friends and strangers. In the mighty name of Jesus, Amen!

Link to all devotionals: iccbrisbane.org/journaling