

John 11:25-26 NLT

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. [26] Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?"

There's a catch (there's always a catch). This exciting, vibrant, immortal, eternal, resurrection gift of life in the Son has a price tag: death. Not physical death (although John assumes that Christians will still die; John 11:25), but followers of Christ are to give up their own lives willingly for the sake of others. This is, of course, a paradox, but the best case study is Jesus himself, the Son of God. Jesus says to his followers, "This bread is my flesh, which I give for the life of the world" (6:51 NIV). Somehow, according to John, Jesus is "life" in himself, and he gives "life" to the world, but it requires him to SACRIFICE himself, to give up his FLESH. This is not some kind of unfortunate coincidence or accident; rather it is the only way transforming life in a sick world is possible.

Jesus's self-sacrifice for the sake of life is also a model to his followers and an invitation to do the same.

- 1) "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (10:11)
- 2) "Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life." (12:25)
- 3) "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (15:13)

ACTION:

What do you need to lay down or sacrifice before the Lord today?

How can you be a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2)?

Link to all devotionals: [iccbrisbane.org/journaling](http://iccbrisbane.org/journaling)