

THURSDAY: THE LIGHT BRINGS ETERNAL LIFE

LESSON: In previous lessons, we recalled that from the very beginning, light brought order; then we saw that this light became flesh and brings us purpose. Afterward, we understood that this light brought us freedom through the Cross. Today we witness something powerful: that very same light brings us life. The light that was present at creation—that walked among us and died out of love—did not remain in the tomb. On the third day, Jesus rose again, and through His resurrection, He gave us eternal life. The Bible teaches us that we were destined for eternal separation, but through the Cross and the Resurrection, Jesus conquered death. Let us read John 11:25–26 and reflect on what Jesus declares regarding life. We are no longer slaves to death, for just as He rose again, we too receive life in Him. Read Romans 6:4 and observe how we now walk in newness of life. It is not merely a future prospect; it is a daily reality. But what does it mean to possess eternal life? It means recognizing that our lives no longer belong to us: our bodies, our families, our finances, our dreams, and our talents—everything belongs to Him. As the Word states, “I no longer live, but Christ lives in me” (Galatians 2:20). This signifies depending on God as our Father and living as Jesus lived—speaking what the Father spoke and doing what the Father did. We now live for Jesus and to reflect Him. We no longer avoid sin out of fear, but rather because our love, loyalty, and faithfulness belong to God. As the Scripture says, we love Him with all our heart, soul, and strength. Our decisions no longer stem from our own wants or feelings, but from a constant inquiry: Does this draw me closer to Jesus, or does it distance me from Him? Does this bring life or death into my life? We choose to live in accordance with Christ—the Tree of Life—rather than the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. We are more radical in Him. After He rose again, He ascended into heaven, yet He left us His Holy Spirit. We are now the temple of God, and He dwells within us. His Holy Spirit guides us every day to live this new life in Jesus. Thanks to His resurrection, we have access to eternal life. And even though our physical bodies may die, our spirits will live forever with Him. Death no longer has power over us. Let us together declare 2 Corinthians 5:17 over our new life in Christ.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- **All:** What does it mean that Jesus gives us new life? (Read John 11:25–26)
- **All:** What question can we ask ourselves when we have choices to make in this world?
- **Youth:** What does it mean to you that “it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me”?
- **Adults:** Are we living as if our lives truly belong to Christ in every area?
- **Adults:** How can we rely more on the Holy Spirit to live out this new life each day?

FAMILY ACTIVITY: Have a family movie night. If you are young adults or adults, you can watch *The Passion of the Christ* and reflect on everything Jesus did for us. If there are small children, watch a movie like *Jesus: The Light of the World*. Prepare some snacks, put on your pajamas, and enjoy some time together. When the movie is over, take a few minutes to talk about what you watched and remember that, thanks to Jesus, we have new life today.