

# LIVE FOR JESUS

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Sermon delivered by

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Jerusalem Central Church,  
Old Alwal, Secunderabad.

Lord JESUS CHRIST expects us to live for Him. The word of God exhorts the believers and Churches in various dimensions encouraging us to live a life for His honor and glory. For that reason God created us. Only for that reason has God separated us from the rest of the world. For that reason only- He washed us in the blood of Lord Jesus Christ. The word “church” means separated people. You are separated from the rest of the world. The rest of the world is living as it likes. People can eat, people can drink, people can make merry and people can live as they like. There is no control over them. They say, “This is my life I will enjoy, I will live it my way”. But when we come to Lord Jesus Christ we are separated people. That is why we are called as a church. Church is the body of Christ. Church is the temple of God. Church is the bride of Lord JESUS CHRIST. So, we have to live for Him. He is our LORD, He is our Master, he is our Director and He is our King. So, we have to take directions from Him. He guided us, He taught us how to live, what to do and what not to do. There are many movements in this world; those movements are teaching the people to die for the cause of that movement. For example, the terrorists – they kill others and then kill themselves, the suicide bombers – they die gladly for their cause. Those movements are “destructive movements”. But our movement, the movement of our Lord JESUS CHRIST is a “constructive movement”. God wants to build the broken-hearted people, God wants to lift the weak people, He wants to build the families and some who are heading to end their life’s by committing suicides. God wants to pull them even from that kind of a danger. So, we have to live for JESUS. We have to say “Lord, I will live a life for you”, until now I lived just for myself and for my family’s sake; But here after, you are my reason, you are my cause and I want to glorify your name through my life and testimony. When we say that: “Lord I want to Live a life for you”, God not only will give us life, but abundant life.

We read in John 10:10 Jesus says “I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly”. So, in order to live for Lord

JESUS CHRIST what do we have to ?  
The Bible gives few instructions to us:

**1. Sit in the presence of God:**

Let us read, **Luke 10:38-42(KJV)** *“Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, **Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.**”*

Mary has chosen what is better. Mary sat at the feet of the Lord. But the sister who invited the Lord is worried about many things. Martha is worried about Lord JESUS CHRIST only, but she is busy with so many works. She is unable to hear the voice of God. She is not able to listen what Lord JESUS CHRIST explains to her or what He teaches about the kingdom of God. Lord has said, “Mary has chosen the best thing”. She sat at the feet of the Lord. In order to live for Christ, you and I should learn to sit at the feet of the Lord quietly. Not just once in a week but everyday set apart a little time to sit in His presence quietly. When you sit in His presence, He will teach you, He will guide you and He will explain about His kingdom. So, let us imitate Mary not Martha. Sit at the feet of the LORD.

**2. Stand for Him:**

Book of Acts 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter verse 14 says, *But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words(KJV)*

So, then Peter stood up with the eleven. We see they were all having the fear in their hearts because just before sometime, they killed their Master and their Lord, and they crucified Him and nailed him to the cross. So, the disciples and Jesus' mother and some of the women and all these people gathered in an upper room and started praying to the Lord. That city was filled with people -guests/traders; so many people came to Jerusalem. The Lord anointed the disciples, the Lord touched them. They were now filled with the Holy Spirit. Until then- with fear they closed the windows and doors. They sat and started to pray in the upper

room. When they learned to sit in the presence of God, they received the strength from the Lord; they opened the doors and came out on the streets. Now Peter, he stood with this eleven disciples and started talking very boldly to the people of Jerusalem, “oh people of Israel listen to me: Not knowing the King of kings and the Lord of Lords you crucified Him but he is the one who gives us life and eternal life”. And he boldly stood for the Lord. We know the story-on that day, thousands of people came to the Lord and 3,000 people took baptism. When you and I stand for the Lord and talk about our Lord JESUS CHRIST, something will happen. But the only thing is that you and I should have the willingness to stand for the Lord. In your college you can stand for the Lord, in your office- among your colleagues you can stand for the Lord, in your community and colony you can testify that Lord JESUS CHRIST is the only way to heaven just like Peter stood for the Lord.

*One day in a country called Romania during the time of communism, Christianity was in danger people were chasing and putting all the Christians in prison. During that time a man called Richard Wurmbrand, a missionary for the Lord, was secretly winning people and gathering people for prayers in the underground without the notice of the government. So, it is an anti-government work, preaching Christ is an anti-government work in those days. The communists were searching for Christians, they were haunting Christians and putting them in prison. One day, Richard Wurmbrand and his wife Sabina Wurmbrand they both sat in a meeting and the communists came to them all of a sudden and said: “Is there anyone who preaches or proclaims or does propaganda about Lord JESUS CHRIST??” Everybody kept quiet, even Richard Wurmbrand -such a man of God who was doing such a mighty work just kept quiet! Then his wife looked at him and said, “they are asking a question if there is anyone who preaches the gospel, why are you silent?” and he replied “if I don’t keep quiet then you will not have a husband”. Then she said, “even if I don’t have a husband that doesn’t matter, but I don’t want a coward husband”. Immediately he raised his hand, and they put him in prison. For many years he was there in that prison. They tortured him; the entire world came to know through his life and testimony that Lord JESUS CHRIST is the living savior. Praise God!*

When we read about these stories where are we standing? We don’t have such problems or situations right here, but already persecution has started all over the world in many countries. In Nigeria, they closed many city churches. The reason they say is this –‘your services are very noisy’. The world wants some reason to banish or suppress Christianity or the Word of God. We see all around the world there are so many festivals going on. People make merry, they shout a lot, they put

up loud speakers, they make noise but nothing will happen then, nobody will say anything. Only when we sing for the Lord the problem comes. When we talk about His life and testimony and when we talk about the salvation then they say -it is the propagation of religion. This kind of persecution is growing all around us. There is an urgency to stand for the Lord.

### **3. Walk with Jesus :**

Thirdly, living for Jesus means walking with Jesus everyday.

Genesis 5:22(NKJV).. *Enoch walked with God three hundred years and had sons and daughters.*

We see clearly, that Enoch walked with God. In verse 24, God took him away. The Bible says, through the life of Enoch, God was pleased. Kindly read Hebrews 11:5

*“By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.”*

Enoch pleased God. When God saw the life of Enoch, He was very much pleased. He had children, he had a family and he had many other responsibilities, yet having all these - he walked with God. My dear brothers and sisters, walking with God is not like leaving the community, family and everything, going into a jungle and living a life over there. Enoch is a great example in front of us. He's having all these responsibilities, he's fulfilling all these responsibilities, yet everyday he walked with God.

### **4. Running for Jesus :**

Fourthly, living for Jesus means running for His cause. This year our church promise, from the book of Acts 8<sup>th</sup> chapter, we'll read verses 29 and 30

*Acts 8:29-30 (NKJV) Then the Spirit said to Philip “Go near and overtake this chariot”. So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said “Do you understand what you are reading?” And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him.*

We see that Philip is already being used in the hand of the Lord mightily. He is in a city called Samaria, thousands of people gathered around him to listen to the word of God. But now the Spirit of God is prompting him to leave the big crusade and run towards the wilderness; just for only one man! He ran into the wilderness; he saw the

chariot and the minister who was sitting in the chariot. He asked him: do you understand what you read? Then he stopped the chariot and asked Philip to sit in the chariot and Philip started explaining him about Lord JESUS CHRIST.

My dear brothers and sisters, living for Jesus is sometimes when God asks you to run, you have to take that step and you have to do the work of the Lord hastily and in a faster way and you should not be slumbering or you should not live a cold life. If you want to live for Jesus then you have to follow Him on a day by day basis.

Gospel according to Mark 1:17

*Mark 1:17 (KJV) And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.*

Jesus said: come follow me. Yes, there will be a progress in your spiritual life. Not only you'll catch fish you will do a better job than this-you will be the fishers of men. Already 8 months passed away, do you have the experience of bringing at least 1 person to Lord JESUS CHRIST? Do you have a habit of testifying about His goodness to other people?

My dear brothers and sisters let us not follow the world. Worldly pleasures and worldly desires will be very very attractive; yes we have seen the world enough. Now you have to follow Lord JESUS CHRIST, you have to be a true disciple in order to receive the crown from him. One day when we meet him personally- face to face we should not bow down our heads in shame. So Follow him every day.

*It seems one day a man was walking and behind him were some pigs going very systematically, very orderly. A stranger who was a young man saw and wondered how this was possible that these pigs were going so orderly in a systematic way. So to know, he started following them. The person who was walking before the pigs - was putting his hand in his pocket and picking out some kind of groundnuts and he put them on the road once in a while. The pigs were simply eating and following that man. So, it is not the interest of the pigs to walk straightly but because they liked the nuts, they were eating the nuts and were following him. After a while he went into a big building and all the pigs went inside with him. Then the shutter were closed. When the shutter was pull down, this young man stood outside the building and read a big name plate over there- the name was written like this: "Pigs Slaughter House". He felt sad for the pigs because they will be killed, chopped down and the man would export the meat.*

The devil is doing the same thing to all men and women. He knows our weaknesses. He knows very well what you are interested in, if you are interested in shopping, buying -buying good things , ornaments ,clothes he will give you that. Or if you are interested in movies he will give you movies, if you are interested in alcohol- yes! he



will provide it to you he will fix you in some area. You cannot come out on your own and you cannot follow Lord JESUS CHRIST in such situation. Many many people are losing their best time and best life .Some are losing even their Testimony and their health. Let us not follow the world but let us follow our Lord JESUS CHRIST who has promised us that he will make us as fishers of men.

## **5. Shout for Jesus :**

*Matthew: 3: 3 (KJV) "For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying:*

*"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the LORD;  
Make His paths straight."*

Here is a man shouting in the wilderness .His name is John- the Baptist. It is written in( John:1:29) he shouted with a big voice : here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the whole world. He lifted up his voice and he started shouting. We know the life and testimony of John the Baptist. For the sake of Truth for the sake of Righteousness he became a martyr for the Lord, he shouted he lifted up his voice. So even if it is necessary we have to shout like John the Baptist. Living for Jesus is shouting that He is our Savior.

## **6. Wrestling in the Presence of the Lord :**

*Genesis: 32 :26 (KJV) "And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"<sup>27</sup> So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob."<sup>28</sup> And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."*

Here is a man who wrestled with God, He wrestled with God, He pleaded God to transform his life. There God changed his name from Jacob to Israel. My dear brothers and sisters, we have to wrestle with God in prayer for the salvation of our family, for the Revival in the Church. We have to wrestle with God for the backsliders, we have to wrestle with God just like Jacob for our spiritual growth. On that day he stood all alone in the bank of the river Jabbok. He is having so much of Property, cattle, children, enough workers ,sufficient money, Gold, Silver everything, but he's not having the joy of Salvation. He is not enjoying the presence of the Lord, he could experience the prosperity of this world but he could not experience the joy of the Holy Spirit. On that day he wanted to establish his relationship with his Heavenly Father-Lord give me that relationship, give me the

true blessing. My dear brothers and sisters, all of us –you and me together we have to wrestle in the presence of God.

*“A man called John Knox was a missionary in Scotland. During his time sin was prevailing everywhere. Nobody was interested in the Word of God. Then this man started praying in this manner “Lord Give Me Scotland or I Die!” I don’t want to lead a life like this. In my Ministry, in my life I want great Revival in this land. “Lord give me Scotland or I die!” He wrestled with God just like Jacob. God gave a great revival in that nation during his time.*

Live for Jesus! People are dying for their own cause, for their movements, but Lord JESUS CHRIST says “I Died for you, you Live for me” I gave my life in order to take you from eternal lake of fire to eternal life. We are separated people we are sanctified people we are called as a Church. So we have to live for the Lord.

Let us make a covenant, a Commitment with the Lord today. Let us not lead a casual Christian life. let us come to a commitment. In order to live for the Lord you have to **sit in the presence of the Lord** everyday. Allocate sometime and sit in the presence of the Lord, sit in the sanctuary and listen to the Word of God as many times as possible. Visit the Church, you come pray alone or you can pray two by two, attend every meeting which is happening in the Church.

secondly **Stand for the Lord**: Just like peter who stood without any fear in the streets of Jerusalem- stand for the lord.

Thirdly **Walk** like Enoch with the Lord every day.

Fourthly just like Philip **Run for the Lord** & for his cause.

**Follow** the Lord JESUS CHRIST in order to become a Fisher of men.

**Shout** for the Just like John the Baptist.

**Wrestle** just like Jacob for the spiritual Blessings & for the Edification of others for the Revival in the church. Live for the cause of our Lord JESUS CHRIST.

May the Lord help us to live in that manner. Let us make a Decision, let us make a commitment in our hearts today, let us change our lifestyle, let us follow the word of God. He is exhorting us again and again with the word of God, let us keep aside our own plans, ideas & our own thinking. Let us obey the Word of God. Then He will give us life & life in abundance.



Let us look to the Lord in Prayer.

**Prayer:**

Our Gracious God and our loving Heavenly Father, Thank you Lord for teaching from your word- how to live a life for you. Lord in order to give us life you gave your life on the cross. This morning you taught us simple methods to live a life for you, help us to receive those instructions and preserve them in our hearts and implement them on a day by day basis. Lord those who are sick heal them and touch them Lord. Lord those who do not have salvation provide them salvation O lord, help them to come out of the worldly systems & live a life for your glory & honor. Those who are in a lukewarm condition- Lord wake them up & make them strong. Father, we pray for all the backsliders. Revive them, restore them and establish your word in their hearts. Bless this church father. Help us to increase in faith, in number and in prayer. Continue to lead and bless us. We pray in Jesus name AMEN.

## **WINGS OF OPEN DOOR MINISTRIES**

- Slum Ministry
- Church Planting
- Missionary Bible Training
- Generation For Jesus
  - Gospel & Revival Meetings
  - Magazine Ministry
  - Television Ministry
- Samaritan Children Home
- Micro Mission Movement

### **TV Program**

Saturday – Calvary Channel at 8 pm

**Sunday Worship: English Service at 8 am, Telugu Service at 10 am**

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## **JERUSALEM CENTRAL CHURCH**

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