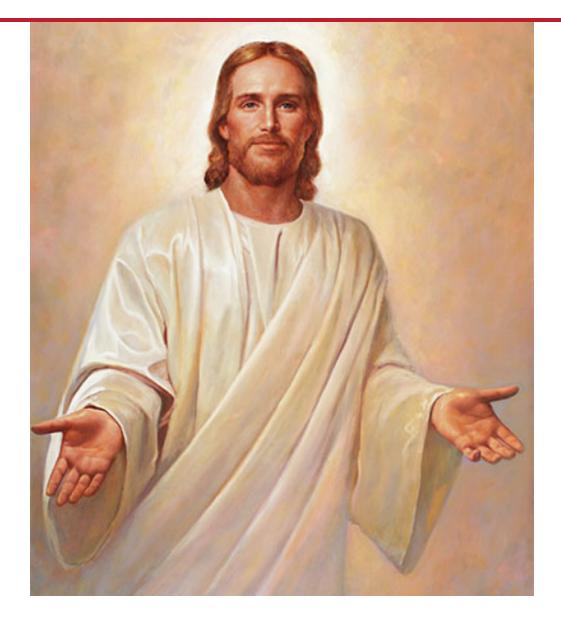
# JESUS SPEAKS TO YOU TODAY



Quotations from the King of Kings to Encourage, Comfort, and Energize YOU

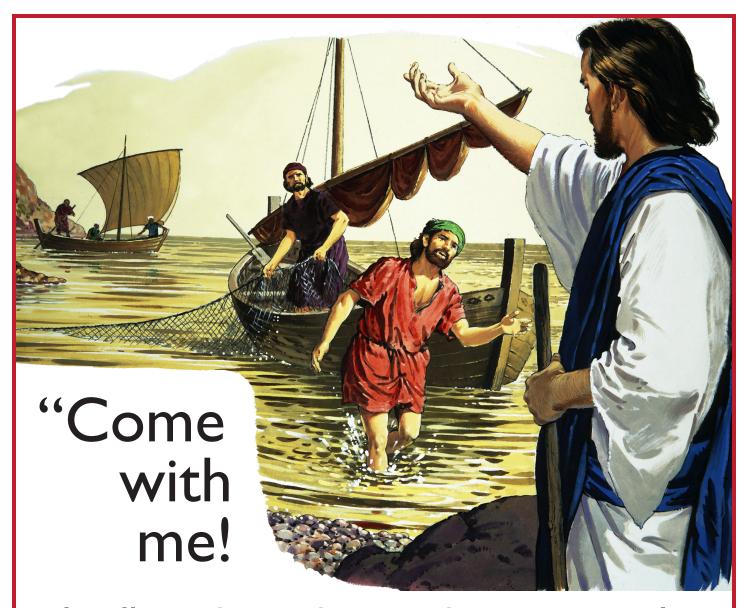


#### "Come unto me."

(Matthew 11:28a, NLT)

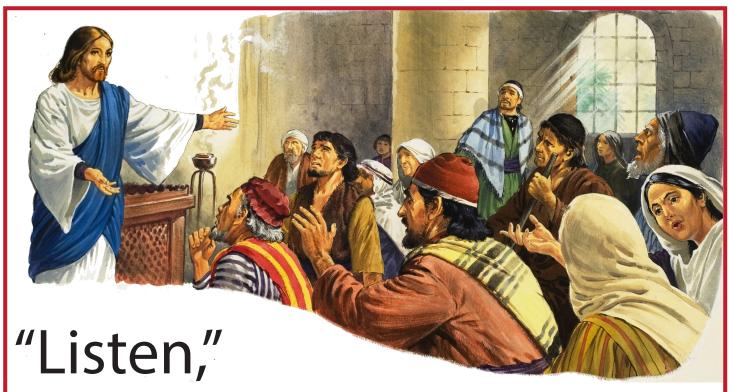
### "I will never refuse anyone who comes to me." (John 6:37b, JBP)

Jesus has always wanted to be friends with you. If you have told him that you believe on him, and you have confessed your sins and are ready to live as he teaches, it is a "done deal." Now it is time to thank him for his gift of salvation and to enjoy life to the full. Ask him to guide your thoughts as you read and think.



### I will teach you how to bring in people instead of fish." (Matthew 4:19, CEV)

Peter and Andrew were good fishermen but Jesus knew they had abilities they didn't use in fishing. He wanted them to have the joys that come from using their best gifts. They changed jobs, and benefitted. Jesus knows you inside and out, too—what you can do well, what you like or dislike. He wants you to have lots of what you enjoy best. To get this, let him lead your choices. Pray in submission: "Bring me what you want me to have" and as Jesus did, "I want your will to be done, not mine." (Luke 22:42, NLT).

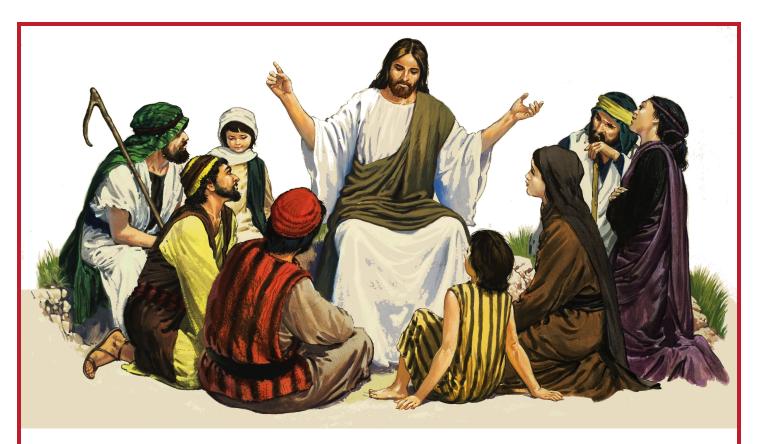


he said, "and try to understand." (Matthew 15:10b, NLT)

Jesus wanted the people in the Temple to know what he was teaching because it could transform their lives. He wants us to understand, too. Jesus came to earth so we can be "born again," which means to repent of sins, be forgiven, and begin living with God's help in a more satisfying way. This was hard for people to understand. It seemed too good to be true.

But it is true! When our sins are forgiven our guilt goes away. Now we are guided by the truth of scripture and by direction from the Holy Spirit. When Jesus said "listen" he was teaching that what we think and do can ruin us. He helps us do right.

With Jesus as our savior and friend, we know that no matter what difficulties come up we will be guided and encouraged along the way by God's own son! Can you imagine a better deal than to be friends with the Lord of the universe? Wow! It can't get any better than that. In this life, that is!



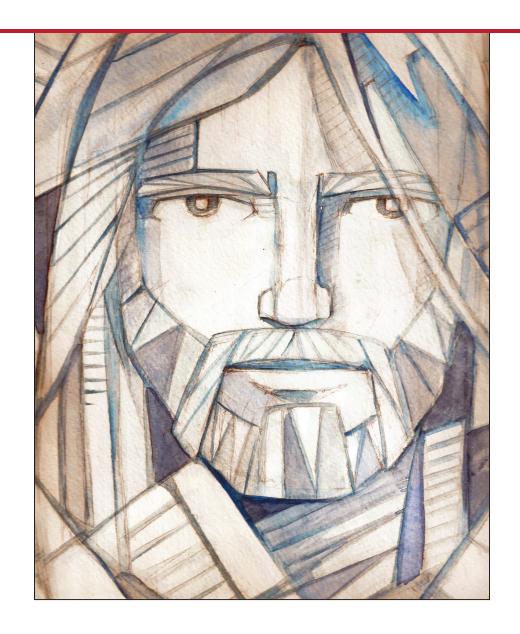
# "If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens, come to me and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28, CEV)

Burdens come in many kinds. During Bible times all people worked hard and many diseases could not be treated. The folks that Jesus talked to knew pain. Many also had emotional pain: fear, sorrow, depression. People today face the same distresses.

When burdens are heavy, friends of Jesus ask him for help and he helps! He is always ready to be your friend.

Are you a friend of Jesus? Then tell him about what is hard for you to carry. Ask him to help you carry it. He will; yes, he will.

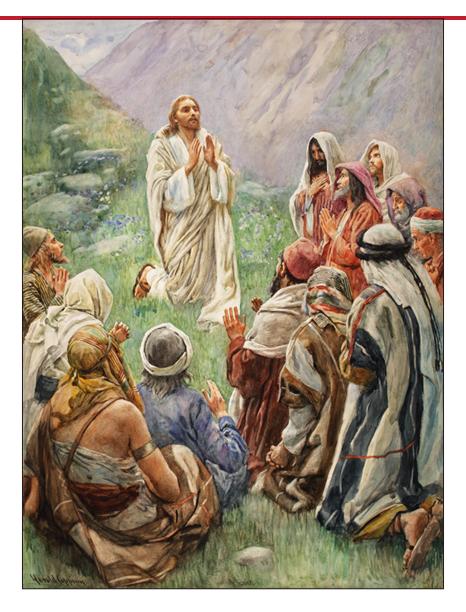
Jesus wants to be your friend; Jesus wants to help you. Tell him your needs, your worries—and discover that he will answer.



### "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me." (John 14:1, NLT)

Then Jesus said, "There is plenty of room for you in my Father's home. If that weren't so, would I have told you that I'm on my way to get a room ready for you? And if I'm on my way to get your room ready, I'll come back and get you so you can live where I live." (John 14:2-4, MSG) Won't that be great!

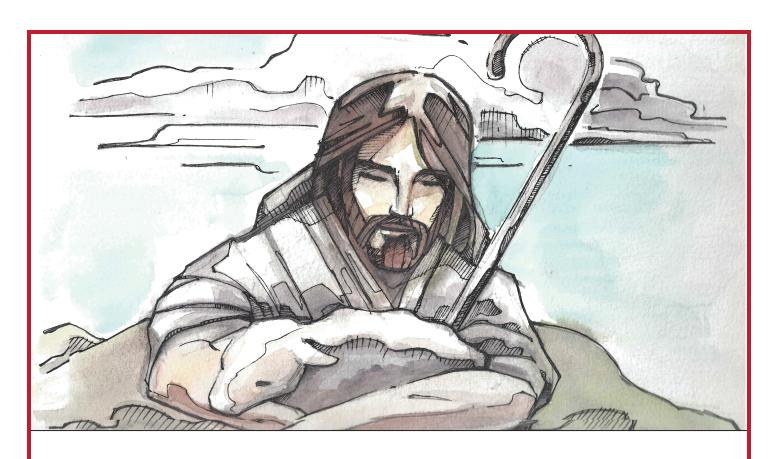
In the meantime, God has friends and fellowship for you that will bring you joy. God will bless you and you can bless others.



"I am not going to leave you alone in the world-I am coming to you." (John 14:18, JBP)

Jesus is available; *always*. He promised. "So I tell you to ask and you will receive, search and you will find, knock and the door will be opened for you." (Luke 11:9, CEV) His answer will be good for you. What Jesus does for you is always good because he loves you.

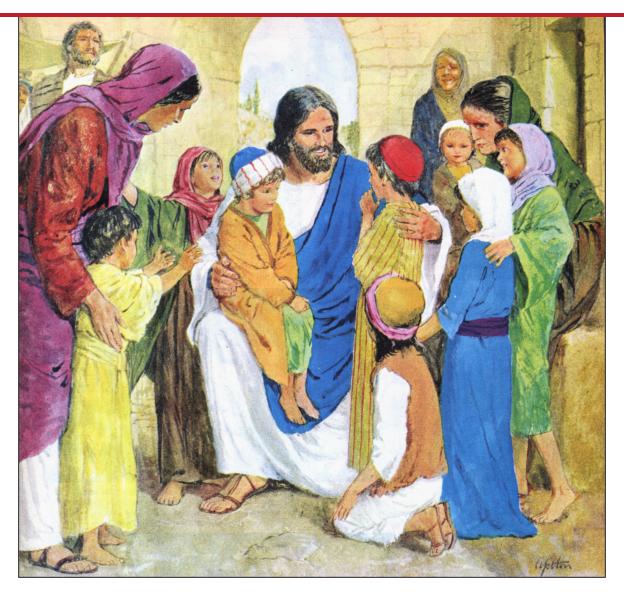
He loved you enough to die for you, and that is a lot of love! This can inspire us to follow his example. What can you do today to be kind to another person who lives near you?



# "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (John 10:11, NIV)

When Jesus taught, he used many comparisons. He said he was a shepherd who came to take care of us (the sheep). Isaiah had said the same thing hundreds of years earlier: "All we like sheep have gone astray." (Isaiah 53:6, KJV)

Are you a sheep? No, you are not a sheep, but, as Isaiah pointed out, we are all *like* sheep, because we need a shepherd to guide and protect us. Jesus does that. Do you know Jesus personally? If you do, rejoice that you do, and relax because he has everything under control. If you do not know him as well as you would like to, ask a friend to help you learn more. Or, visit with a pastor or chaplain. Jesus loves you and is eager to help you.



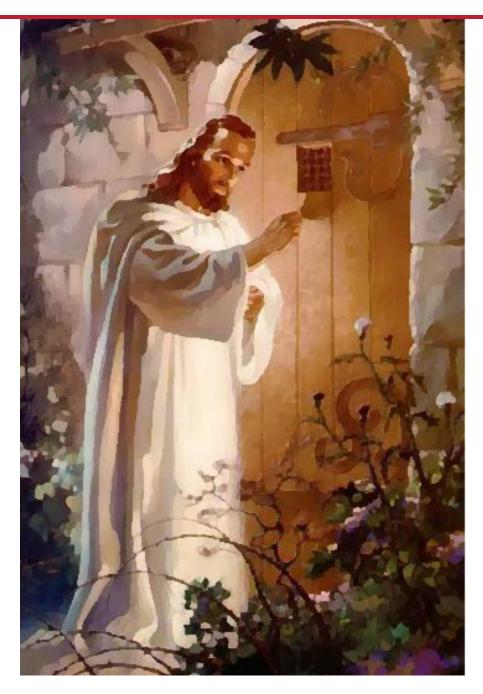
"Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children." (Mark 10:14, NLT)

The children were excited about being with Jesus. They knew that Jesus loved them. Jesus loves you just as much. Love him back with enthusiasm. Accept his love and obey his teaching. He will be with you. Jesus will comfort you if you are sad or afraid. Be as excited as a child about that.



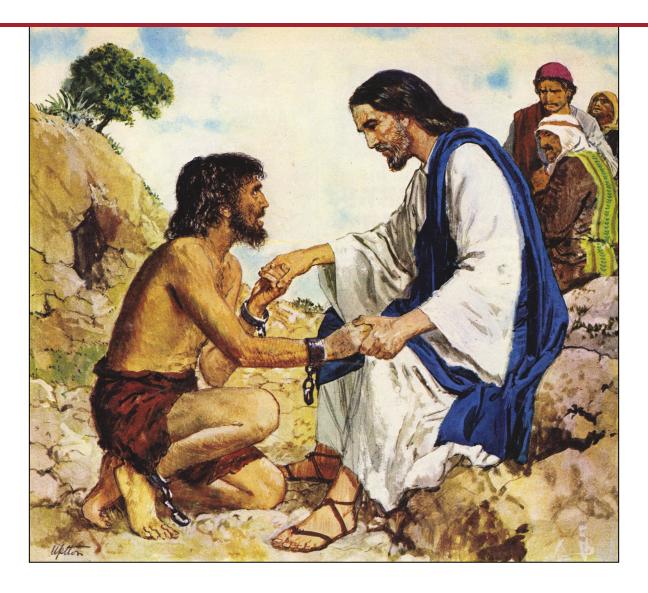
"I came so they [you] might have life, a great full life." (John 10:10, NLV)

This is my favorite verse. Some Bibles say "abundantly," a word with no pizazz. A "great full life" is pizazz! As physical pleasures diminish, joys of the spirit grow stronger. Friendship with God brings comfort, vitality, and enthusiasm. Let him show you.



"Listen! I am standing and knocking at your door. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and we will eat together." (Rev 3:20, CEV)

Jesus talks of eating together to remind us of the special joy of being with a close friend! He wants to be the closest best friend you could ever have! He wants your friends to be his friends, too. Within the arms of Jesus' love there is room for everyone.



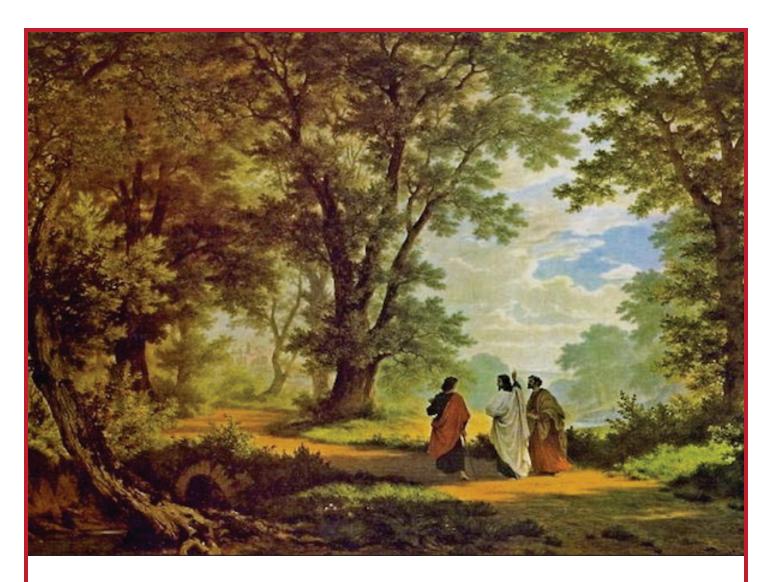
"Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. ... Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." (Matthew 7: 7-8, NLT)

This man had a severe problem that caused him to go out of control and to hurt himself. People were afraid of him. Jesus healed him. Jesus wants you to be healthy in body, in mind, and in friendships—especially your friendship with him. Love Jesus with all your heart; he wants to love you back.



"This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you." (Luke 22:20, NLT)

The final time the original 12 disciples met together was the Last Supper. Jesus began what we now call the sacrament of Communion or the Eucharist. At the time, the disciples did not fully understand that Jesus' death on the cross pays the penalty for your sins (and mine). What a gift! What a great gift! He died so that you and I and millions of others can live. We thank him by loving him back and following his lead.



"I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20b, NLT)

What a wonderful promise! He is with you now, ready to guide, to comfort, and to encourage. He is the complete friend who knows what you long for and can provide it. Just ask and be ready to follow his instructions. He will never disappoint you.

The faithfulness of God is amazing. He is always nearby, ready to encourage, counsel, or help; whatwever we need. Even when it is necessary for him to tell us we have done wrong it is done with love and for our good. He will never quit loving and helping you.



## "I have told you this to make you as completely happy as I am." (John 15:11, CEV)

How happy is Jesus? Well, look at it this way: he lives in heaven where there is no crime, disease, or bad weather—no difficulties of any kind. It is filled with good people—everyone is friendly. It is the sort of place where I want to live, and Jesus is getting it ready for me. Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you." (John 14:2b, KJV) His promises are generous. He also lives within each person who repents of sin and follows him as their savior. So, he can be always with us. Isn't that both amazing and wonderful! Thank you, Jesus, for being ready, *always*, to care for me!

#### **USING THIS INFORMATION**

This booklet addresses issues important to all men and women. The promises of God apply to all who participate in the Christian way, and Jesus' promises are sweeter than roses, more stimulating than chocolate. Know them, rely on them, and discover how much God loves you. Share this good news with others!

Biblical quotes were selected for ease of reading and comprehension of meaning. These abbreviations are used: NLV, New Life Version; NLT, New Living Translation; CEV, Contemporary English Version, also known as The Promise; JBP. J.B. Phillips translation; NIV, New International Version, KJV, King James Version.

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