

NOTES

WARM-UP

- Do you like giving gifts to your friends or family members even if there's no special occasion? Why or why not?
- Are you sentimental about the gifts you receive and do your best to keep them? Why or why not?
- Who do you look up to? What do you admire about him/her?

WORD

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ISAIAH 9:6

Jesus, who Isaiah calls our *Everlasting Father*, is God's greatest gift to us. The Bible distinguishes between God the Father and Jesus, who is God the Son. By calling Jesus *Father*, Isaiah was not saying that the Father and the Son are the same person. Rather, Isaiah is telling us that Jesus is a "father" or a kind protector, an ideal king who cares for His people. *Father* also means that Jesus is the author or source of a new way of life, which He gives to those who trust in Him. In this lesson, we will look more into what it means for Jesus to be our *Everlasting Father*.

1 Jesus is the source of life.

³*"All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men."* JOHN 1:3,4

The life we have now was created through Jesus. What's more, Jesus promises to give us new life that will last for eternity. Thus, Isaiah calls Jesus the *Everlasting Father*, because He is the originator or the source of life. According to this verse, how are all things made?

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2 Jesus is the center of life.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." **JOHN 15:5**

Our life doesn't make sense apart from Jesus. We cannot bring anything out of this world when we die. But if we put our trust in Jesus, we can look forward to the eternal life we have with God even when we leave this world. What does it mean to abide in Jesus?

3 Jesus is the giver of eternal life.

"And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." **JOHN 17:3**

Not only is Jesus the source of life, He is also the giver of eternal life. In Christ, we can have the free gift of eternal life. It's not something we can plead or work for; it is given to all who trust in Jesus and accept His gift. According to this verse, what is *eternal life*?

APPLICATION

- How will knowing that God is your *Everlasting Father* change your life? What's one mindset or thing in your life that needs to change, and what will you do about it?
- Read and meditate on Luke 6:46. Is there an area in your life where you do not do what Jesus says? Why is it hard for you to follow Jesus in this aspect? What will you do differently, starting this week?
- Among your family and friends, think of one person who does not yet know about the eternal life that Jesus offers. Are you ready to present the gospel to him/her this week? How will you prepare?

PRAYER

- Thank God for the gift of eternal life. Acknowledge that He is the source of your life.
- Ask God for the grace to follow Him and make Him the center of your life.
- Ask God for boldness, the urgency, and opportunities to preach the gospel.



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