

[PSST: Find "Timeless Life" Today! (Sections 2 and 4)]
Possible Sunday School Topics

by Merrill Boudreaux
for the Christian Science Bible Lesson: "**Life**" for January 19, 2014

P.S.S.T. Golden Text – Ask students to complete this phrase: "Life is" Try to be as exhaustive as possible and work through the easier statements like, eternal, infinite, permanent, and move to more thoughtful ones like: mine, always, in all ways, for everyone, challenging to my belief in death. You might also state it as "Life is like ..." to see what other creative concepts come forth like: Life is like a gentle rain that covers everyone...

P.S.S.T. Responsive Reading (RR) – Ask students to pull phrases from the RR that assure they need not be afraid – ever, regardless of an untoward situation. Ask students to share what they think these phrases mean:

- "...an host should encamp against me,..."
- "...I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life..."
- "...to inquire in his temple."
- "...he shall hide me in his pavilion..."
- "...he shall set me up upon a rock."
- "...the floods of ungodly men made me afraid."
- "...he drew me out of many waters."
- "...God will enlighten my darkness."

P.S.S.T. Section 1 – Can you ever be deprived of Life? If so, who or what would deprive you? Is there another god? What evidence do you have that Life is eternal, permanent, ever-available? This section refers to light. What are the characteristics of light? What does the phrase "...in thy light shall we see light," mean? Perhaps that we are to use spiritual sense rather than the physical senses to reveal who we are. Look to lines 1-6 on page 122 (S4) to compare the results of the physical sense testimony and the great facts of Life. What are the great facts of Life as stated in that section?

P.S.S.T. Section 2 – Does God have a sense of time? Do you need more time in your life (see *Science & Health* 595:17), or do you need more inspiration that leads to Soul-filled years (S8 - 598:30-2)? How long have you dwelled in the consciousness of God? How long has God known you? How long will God maintain you? What does "from everlasting to everlasting" mean? When will something beyond or outside of everlasting occur? How can you be assured of your everlasting life? (B7) What does your perfect day look like? Do you have to wait for a perfect day to occur?

P.S.S.T. Section 3 – What does it mean to be "planted in the house of the Lord"? What is "house" in that phrase? (Consciousness – B9) How many is fourscore and five years? (85) This is a great section to have a frank conversation about measuring life and expectations by calendar years and birthdays. How can you have a birth day if you are from everlasting and if "time-tables of birth... are conspiracies against manhood and womanhood" (S10)? Perhaps finding another opportunity to humanly express appreciation for family members could be in order, maybe selecting any day in the year as an Appreciation Day for the individual, and yes, even with presents of appreciation. What are you subject to: earth's rotations around the sun, or the everlasting powers of God as ever-present in your life? (S13)

P.S.S.T. Section 4 – In the *Christian Science Sentinel* of January 13/20, 2014, page 13, is an article by Madelon Maupin titled "Timeless Life." You might share this with your students. It has an insight about the healing in this section and the woman touching the border or fringe of Jesus' garment. Many Jews today still wear a garment with fringes or tassels. These tassels

are attached to the four corners of the shawl to remind Jews of their religious obligations and especially of the Exodus *[and the 10 Commandments which both]* freed the children of Israel from bondage. >From what does Life free you and every one of us? Interestingly today many of us wear bracelets of woven fabric or precious metals as a reminder of a special friend or event. This serves as a connection to that friend or event. Was this woman also making a connection with the Christ? What was the result? (B15—Luke 8:43-48) *[See PS in CedarS Mets for Cobbey Crisler insights.]*

P.S.S.T. Section 5 – Read aloud the story of Lazarus in John 11:41-44 (B17) *[either directly from the Bible or in the reenactment skit posted as a Download on CedarS website]*. What was Jesus' prayer of affirmation? Of what was this healing evidence? Everlasting life, permanent life, unbounded life, matter making no condition of a person's life. How did Jesus restore Lazarus? (S21) Does the Christ still overcome death today? (S22) Ask students to memorize S&H 495:14 (slightly more than S23).

P.S.S.T. Section 6 – We return to the image of light that dispels all darkness, myths, false beliefs, physical sense testimony. Who commanded the light to shine forth? Where does that light shine for us? (B20) What is the result of light in your life? (B21) Our days will multiply rather than diminish. (S25) Proving the truths in this lesson even in a small degree is evidence of ability to prove more and more even to a larger degree. Ask yourself the question in citation S&H p. 496:9 (S28) What does your perfect day look like? I believe it is filled with light and inspiration from everlasting to everlasting.



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