

Radiant

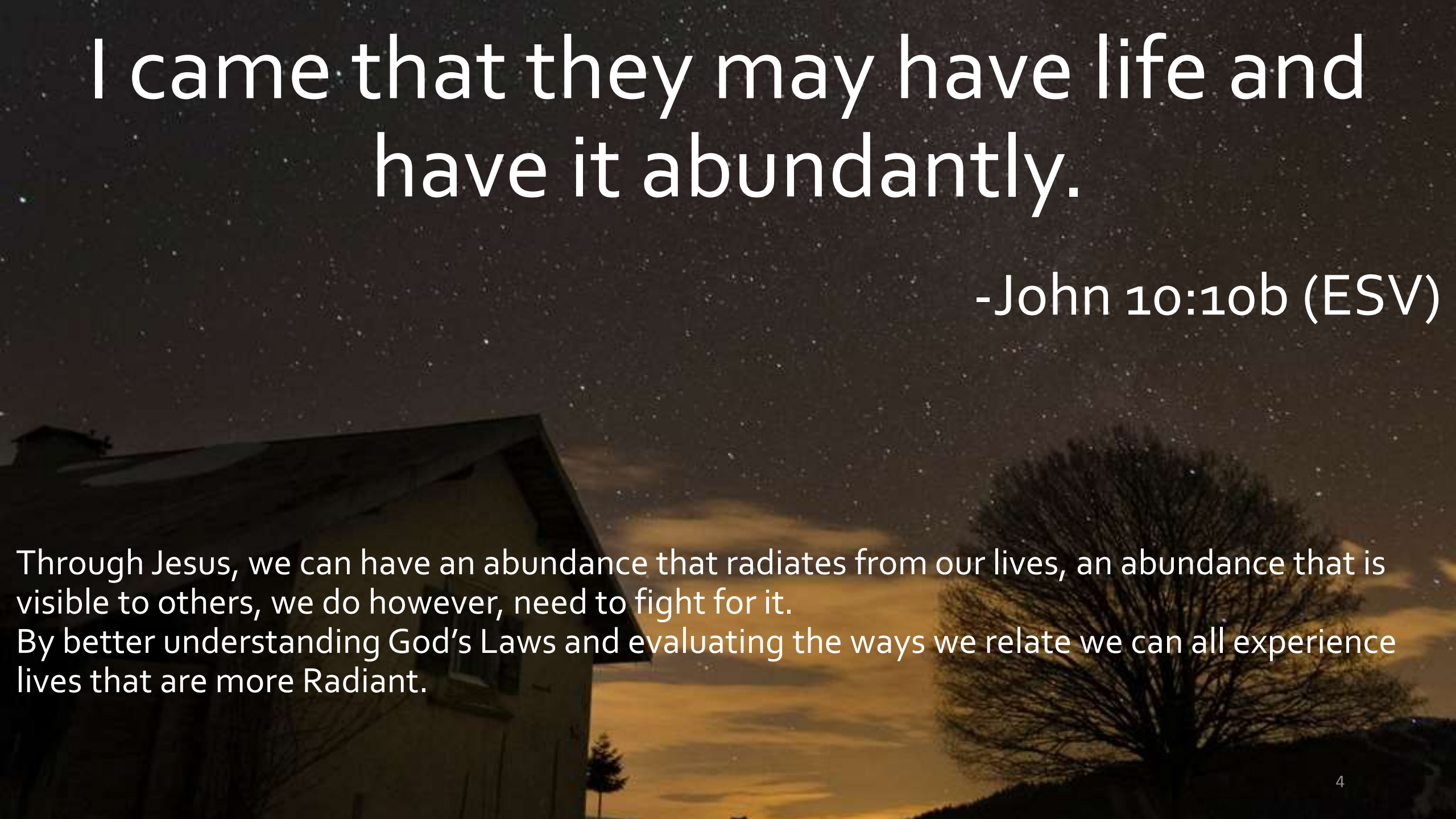




Beauty School Dropout

Radiant





I came that they may have life and
have it abundantly.

-John 10:10b (ESV)

Through Jesus, we can have an abundance that radiates from our lives, an abundance that is visible to others, we do however, need to fight for it.
By better understanding God's Laws and evaluating the ways we relate we can all experience lives that are more Radiant.

Internal Boundaries

A silhouette of a person standing on a mountain ridge, looking up at a starry night sky. The person is centered in the lower half of the frame, with the dark, jagged silhouette of the mountain range extending from the bottom and right sides. The sky is a deep blue, filled with numerous stars and a few faint streaks, suggesting a clear night. The overall mood is contemplative and vast.

What is a boundary?

What we permit inside the edges of our territory.

Are all boundaries good?

To have good boundaries, we must know where the edges of our territory are AND what should and should not be permitted.

Tackling the Great Commandment

“Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this...The Lord our God is the one and only Lord. And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength."

- Mark 12:28-30

Jesus defines our territory. We have been given authority over the boundaries on our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength.

Internal Boundary 1: Love the Lord with All Your Soul

First...what exactly is the soul?

“Don’t be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul.”
– Matthew 10:28

Psychē: the essence of a person not dissolved by death. The seat on which our ‘heart’ is placed.

Internal Boundary 1: Love the Lord with All Your Soul

“So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.”

– James 1:21

“You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.”

– 1 Peter 1:9

“If you cling to your [soul], you will lose it; but if you give up your [soul] for me, you will find it.”

– Matthew 10:39

Internal Boundary 1: Love the Lord with All Your Soul

How does one love the Lord with all their soul?

To love your soul is to want to save it.

You save your soul by entrusting it to God.

You entrust your soul because you humbly believe in God's promise of eternal life through Christ.

You believe because you trust Him.

Internal Boundary 2: Love the Lord with All Your Heart

What exactly is the heart?

“Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”

– Luke 12:34

Kardía: one’s character, passions, desires, emotions, ambitions, and purpose

Internal Boundary 2: Love the Lord with All Your Heart

Hearts can be:

Troubled	(John 14:1)
Filled With Doubt	(Luke 24:38)
Filled With Sorrow	(Romans 9:2)
Hardened	(Mark 8:17)
Filled by Satan	(Acts 5:3)

Hearts can also be:

Pure	(Matthew 5:8)
Peace-Filled	(John 14:27)
Flooded with Light	(Ephesians 1:18)
Glad	(Acts 2:26)
United	(Acts 4:32)
Cleansed	(Acts 15:8-9)

Internal Boundary 2: Love the Lord with All Your Heart

How does one love the Lord with all their heart?

“Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong.”

– Ephesians 3:17

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.”

- Phillipians 4:6-7

Internal Boundary 2: Love the Lord with All Your Heart

“My child, pay attention to what I say.

Listen carefully to my words. Don't lose sight of them. Let them penetrate deep into your heart, for they bring life to those who find them, and healing to their whole body. Guard your heart above all else, for from it flow the springs of life.”

-Proverbs 4:20-23

Internal Boundary 2: Love the Lord with All Your Heart

To love at all is to be vulnerable. Love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact you must give it to no one, not even an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements. Lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket, safe, dark, motionless, airless, it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable. To love is to be vulnerable.

- C.S.Lewis

Internal Boundary 2: Love the Lord with All Your Heart

How does one love the Lord with all their heart?

To love your heart is:

To allow the Holy Spirit to

tend to it

guard it

reveal it

cleanse it

Internal Boundary 3: Love the Lord with All Your Mind

What exactly is the mind?

“And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us [a mind] so that we can know the true God.”

– 1 John 5:20

Diánoia: deep thought, understanding, discernment, wisdom

Internal Boundary 3: Love the Lord with All Your Mind

“Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him.”

– Ephesians 4:18

“This includes you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions.”

– Colossians 1:21

Internal Boundary 3: Love the Lord with All Your Mind

“When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.”

– 1 Corinthians 13:11

“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

– 2 Corinthians 10:5

Heart vs Mind

“Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” – Luke 18:17

“The LORD protects those of childlike faith” – Psalm 116:6

...Wait... if I'm supposed to be like a child to get into heaven, why am I supposed to leave my childhood behind me??

The Peter Pan Syndrome vs The Spock Syndrome

Internal Boundary 3: Love the Lord with All Your Mind

How does one love the Lord with all their mind?

To love your mind is:

To grow it by seeking wisdom from God

To renew your mind through the truth within God's word

To develop spiritual discernment of good and evil.

Internal Boundary 4: Love the Lord with All Your Strength

What exactly is strength?

“Like a city whose walls are broken through is a person who lacks self-control.” – Proverbs 25:28

Ischýs: ability, physical power, will, endurance, self-control

Internal Boundary 4: Love the Lord with All Your Strength

“Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”

– Galatians 5:25

“All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God’s anger, just like everyone else.”

– Ephesians 2:3

“Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.”

– James 1:2-4

Internal Boundary 4: Love the Lord with All Your Strength

“Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body.”

– 1 Corinthians 6:18

“Don’t be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life.”

– Ephesians 5:18

“A final word: Be **strong** in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.”

– Ephesians 6:10-11

Internal Boundary 4: Love the Lord with All Your Strength

How does one love the Lord with all their strength?

To love with all your strength is:

To discipline your body

To exert self-control against the temptations of the world

To control your tongue from agreeing with evil

Where are you at in living out the Great Commandment?

- To whom have you entrusted your soul?
- Is your heart fertile, guarded, and childlike or has it been disciplined, squashed, shamed and locked away?
- Is your mind developed and disciplined?
Are you seeking wisdom and the knowledge of God?
Or are you still immature in your thinking, unable to differentiate good from evil?
- Are you using your strength to establish the boundaries your mind has discerned?
Are your decisions reflected in self-discipline in spending, eating, resisting addictions, control of your tongue, and sexual purity?
Are you a slave to this world or experiencing freedom that comes with salvation?

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