

## Behind Closed Doors by Donna Davis

**John 10 v 9** I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. **10** The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly. **11** I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

Do you ever just sit and think about LIFE? How we are all on a journey and all have various obstacles, and highs and lows along the way. We often all do the same things and yet when we enter into our own four walls, our own bricks and mortar which is all that separates us, none of us really know what is going on behind closed doors. What our neighbours, colleagues and families are filling their time with, whether Christians or unsaved. I imagine most households or a typical household would have a TV or radio on, probably some family members would be on their computers playing games, buying something or updating their face book page. Perhaps some would be very happy and parents and children alike are in a safe, comfortable, homely atmosphere while others are the complete opposite and many struggles, fights and much unrest is felt. Then there's the nursing homes and sheltered accommodation where people coming to the end of their lives are often very lonely and have even given up on LIFE and are literally waiting to die. Not to mention those on hospital beds recovering from an operation or going through a life-threatening illness. These folk, if well enough, are just waiting for visiting hours to come so they can see a friendly face and a loved one. Then back to the separation and feelings of loss and again loneliness even anguish.

Do you ever have thoughts like this? Do you ever consider LIFE and what it's really all about? Do you think about others and what they are going through? Do you think how fragile and short your earthly life is? Do you ever consider what you have done with your life? Do you have ambition and dreams to fulfil or do you just plod on throughout each day, week, and year? Is your LIFE so far full of regrets? Are you content with how your LIFE is? Has your LIFE been full of selfishness or have you considered others with your words, actions and decisions? Isn't it 'strange' how we all do similar daily activities, whoever we are and whatever status/class we like to think ourselves in; we get up, we have a shower, get dressed, go out (school, work, town etc.) go to the toilet, eat, mix with others, buy things to bring us pleasure and oftentimes to make us feel better, we then at the end of the day say goodbye, goodnight, get changed for bed, have a wash, brush our teeth etc. etc. and go to sleep. Then tomorrow comes and the same routine starts, this continues day in day out! Then as Easter, summer, Christmas or a Birthday approaches there is some variation in the routine as we take a holiday or do something different or look forward to a particular event. I am sure at these times we all feel different somehow, our emotions change and LIFE may be a little bit more exciting or brighter, then when it's all over reality sets back in and off we go again, routine day in day out.

Now LIFE is so much more than this; of course we all have mundane things that need to be done and responsibilities that must be carried out, however I wonder what you think about the LIFE God has given you. I say to John sometimes I feel like 'screaming' to try and get through to people. To try and break into their lives and make them see that there is so much more to LIFE than all the superficial and shallow things, the empty pursuits and worldly activities that only bring despair, destruction and misery oftentimes and rarely satisfaction, security and peace. It is so sad and frustrating that the majority of people are prepared to just go along with the flow and drift through LIFE getting involved with a whole host of sins that cause them pain and hurt and leaves them feeling unloved, unwanted, and even angry with how society has dealt with them. Do they not

realise how precious and how fragile LIFE is and how grateful we all should be for this great gift? We must all remember that we are accountable to the Lord for how we have and are living, whether we know Him as our Saviour or not. Without the Lord in our lives LIFE is truly futile; there is just no point at all. Without the Lord we're born, we live 70 years or more, we die, we spend eternity in Hell. All the struggles, joys and disappointments and every other emotion we've experienced, gaining and losing along the way, was all for what? Do people really think this way and have they been so blinded not to think about deeper things and to consider what LIFE is really all about? I fear many do and perhaps those that do venture out in their thoughts regarding LIFE are too easily brought back in to the superficial and 'earthly' way of thinking. Too much thinking will bring them to the Lord and the majority do not want Him. We are all so aware of our lives being a vapour and how quickly they are passing by. We may be able to change many things but one thing we cannot stop is the clock ticking and our bodies getting older day by day. As Christians we have Eternity with the Lord to look forward to and everlasting LIFE, however, I want to continually consider my LIFE on earth; how I am living it, how I am trying to reach and impact others, how I am trying to be a good ambassador for the Lord and how I can change in order to make every day count and how I want to mature in my Christian walk and really get deeper with the Lord who gave me this LIFE to enjoy. Thank You Lord.