As John 14:6 says, "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

This baby who is now reigning victorious in Heaven came to earth. He gave us the life that we were created for. He gives us abundant lives through faith. From John 10:10 Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." This abundantly-full life that Jesus gives us is the ultimate Christmas gift.

It is better than the watch that one day needs repair. The Elmo talking doll that's buttons fall off. It is better than the Kitchen Aid blender that does not cook dinner for you. It is better than a bike that gets a flat tire. Fill in the blank, "It is better than..." Jesus is the life and He gives us life. My life in Christ has been incredible. I once was lost in my own fears and now I am found in His love. I once was perpetually let down by those that love me and now I stand on the solid rock of Christ who is never lacking love. How about you? Let's hear the good news together.

Today I bring along a Christmas Favorite. It is Jesus Calling, <u>The Story of Christmas</u>, by Sarah Young. I share this picture book with you from the heart of Jesus Himself on this blessed Christmas day.

This morning I want to take you on a journey thought the Scriptures to ground on hearts in the audacious love that we are offered in the miracle of Christmas that brings us Life. This message begins with our Lord in the beginning of time and brings us to the miracle of the manger. It then moves to our hearts and minds today so that we can embrace a wonderful, meaningful Christmas.

- 1. Picture of stars and sun:
- 2. Picture of Abraham

Galatians 3:8

- 3. Picture of the Prophets
- 4. Picture of Mary
- 5. Picture of Joseph
- 6. Picture of Elizabeth
- 7. Picture of the Manger
- 8. Picture of the Shepherds
- 9. Picture of the Wiseman
- 10. Picture of Out to Egypt
- 11. Picture of Jesus the boy running
- 12. Picture of Jesus and the children

Returning to John 14:6, "Jesus is the life." This Christmas may you embrace that "life" that is yours in Christ. Cling to the truth. Embrace the love that you have been given. Embrace Christian community and walk with Jesus through constant prayer every day.

Let's Pray