

Embrace  
Holy  
Living

# RE- FLECTING GOD

## 08/13/11 - Thank Heaven

RG AUDIO 0813111 John 5:1-12

When I was a child, whenever we talked about eternal life I thought we were talking about heaven. I basically pictured heaven as a gold street-filled Land of Oz with a bit of Mary Poppins mixed in. In my heavenly dream, I got to run and sing (always beautifully in tune), enjoy good companions, and when there was a mess you simply wrinkled your nose and nodded. Things were tidy in a finger snap.

It was a significant shift for me to realize eternal life is the gift of God to the people of God right now. This life is found in Christ. First John 5 teaches us the visible signs of this life are the way we love God, love God's children, and obey his commandments. Therefore eternal life has everything to do with living so in Christ, and through Christ that my heart sings an unending love song for God and God's people.

I can therefore grow in my ability to love.

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