

## **Our Life is Like a Puzzle: A Christmas Message :: By Karen Dowell**

Picture an old, tattered puzzle dulled by age. It might be hard to put together. There may be missing or damaged pieces. The worn edges leave gaps or curl up, and fit together loosely. Some have saved the many pieces in a ziploc bag, because the cover – the picture – has been destroyed, thinking they could put it together again by memory.

A puzzle piece is much like our lives – we become broken down by the world when the armor of God is no longer present. We can find ourselves drifting from His word. We spend more time in relationships with “stuff” of the world than with Heavenly Father. What once was whole and with direction can become broken and tattered. This Christmas season we need to reflect on our lives to renew and refresh our faith.



**Choose a single piece of this puzzle. It represents your life. It is a part of something much bigger, but only GOD can see the finished product. He has a plan for your life. He sent His son Jesus so that we could live and live more abundantly. We had to have the birth so that we could have the blood.**

Some pieces are kind of plain, some dark, just like our lives. By themselves they are uninteresting and may seem to serve no real purpose. Many people find themselves leaning on their own understanding to try and “fit” in and make sense of their fractured world. They want to know their purpose, and know answers to life’s many questions. In other words, they only look INWARD, looking upon themselves. They will never see beyond their one piece of the grand puzzle of their life created by God for His glory.

Only Father knows exactly what we need, and He has the answers we are seeking. Faith and acknowledgement of His omnipotence is the key to understanding. We must look only to Him for guidance and direction.

To complete a puzzle you must work OUTWARD from any one piece. You must reach outward by faith and trust in Him that created you. Nevertheless, you need the border, a foundation in Christ Jesus, to define the size and shape of your life. Once you finish the border (the foundation in Christ Jesus), your puzzle is much easier to complete. Think of the border as the do’s and don’ts of what the Bible has laid out for us to follow – in other words, a blueprint.

People without Father in their lives are like the photo above, all just separate pieces. At times, a few pieces may become connected. However, without the whole picture that only God can see, you will never experience the beauty of the finished product and live in righteousness for eternity.

The puzzle here is only made up of 100 pieces. Imagine a puzzle with thousands upon thousands of pieces, like those that make up your life. Without Him to guide you and a foundation In Christ Jesus, you have no chance to figure it all out on your own. We need a foundation on which to build. We need faith that comes by hearing and being in fellowship with other believers.


**We only have some of the pieces of the puzzle of our life. GOD has the rest. In His timing, answers and directions for your life will be disclosed to you when you make the correct choices, guided by the**


**blueprint** (The foundation in Christ Jesus, or the border of a Puzzle...). Believe me, there is something beautiful when all the pieces come together even if, on their own, most of the pieces are dark or plain.

**So keep praying; surround yourself with others seeking a relationship with Father; grow in faith and love this Christmas Season. Renew yourself, and remember .....For God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son....**

Merry Christmas,

Karen


Foundry Bible Teaching 



*Merry Christmas*

**JOHN 3:16**

Your life is like one piece of a puzzle.



Only GOD can see the whole picture

