Living Abundantly
John 10:9-10

Introduction:
A. Jesus came not just to give us life, but to give it abundantly.
   1. "PERISSOS — exceeding some number or measure or rank or need
      a) over and above, more than is necessary, superadded" (Thayer).
   2. Not just saved, but opportunity to “go in and out and find pasture” (v. 9).
B. Living Abundantly involves two factors:

Discussion:
I. The Abundance of God’s Love, Mercy and Grace (1 Pet. 1:3)
   A. Demonstrated by the abundance of Christ’s sacrifices for us.
      1. Became poor for us. (2 Cor. 8:9).
      2. Emptied himself for us (Phil 2:5-8 ASV).
      3. Died for us. (Rom. 5:8).
         a. While we were still sinners (vv. 6-7).
         b. Abounding grace overcomes abounding sin (vv. 12-21)
         c. Purchased the church with blood. (Acts 20:28)
   B. Demonstrated by the abundance of Christ’s gifts to us (Eph. 4:8).
      1. Supplied us with the means of growth and edification. (Eph. 4:11-16).
      2. Surrounded us with a supporting spiritual family. (Cf. Mark 10:30).
      3. Showered us with “every spiritual blessing in Christ.” (Eph. 1:3).
         a. Grace to help in time of need. (Heb. 4:16).
         b. Holy Spirit to help with our prayers. (Rom. 8:26-27).
         c. Help in time of temptation. (1 Cor. 10:13).

II. The Abundance of Our Response to His Love, Mercy and Grace.
   A. Abounding, rather than just enough to get by, is appropriate response.
      1. “Always abounding in the work of the Lord” (1 Cor. 15:58)
      2. “But as you abound in everything …” (2 Cor. 8:7)
      3. “For if these things are yours and abound (2 Pet. 1:8) — abundant entrance (v. 11).
   B. Abounding, rather than just enough to get by, is often difference in success and failure.
      1. It is true of all kinds of endeavors: Business; Marriages; Education; Churches
      2. It is a matter of attitude and approach.
         a. Doing what is compelled versus the extra mile. (Cf. Matt. 5:41).
         b. Doing “just enough to get by” versus a little extra for good measure.
         c. Doing “what is expected” versus “more than expected.”
   C. Abounding reflects a higher level of service.
      1. One usually does just what he “has to” from fear and constraint.
      2. One usually does more that he “has to” because he “wants to” from love.

Conclusion:
A. We want God’s grace to abound and an abundant entrance into heaven! What about our service?
B. Does your life, as a Christian, reflect a desire to abound or just get by?
C. Does our life, as a church, reflect our desire to abound or just get by?
   1. Our night attendance? Gospel meeting attendance?
   2. Our evangelist efforts? Edification efforts?