

## WHAT IF...

Man! Those are powerful words. Depending on what you follow them with, these two little words can lead you into a whirlwind of fear and worry, filled with nightmarish scenarios. Or, they can provide you with a path to paradise. It's all a matter of perspective. It has been said that the world is like a battlefield where two wolves – light and darkness – fight for supremacy. The one that wins, is the one you Feed. Imagine this:

What if ... when I needed a friend, YOU gave me the best friend I could ever ask for.

What if ... I longed for a brother to stand *with* me, a champion to fight *for* me, a teacher to *educate* me, a mentor to hold me *accountable* when I falter, and a coach to lift me up, dust me off, and *encourage* me to get back in the game of life when I fall. And YOU were all of them and more. SO much more.

What if ... my heart felt so empty, so alone and longing for companionship that it filled me with an ache in the night so strong that it flooded my eyes with oceans of loneliness. And YOU, filled that void with an unconditional, unwavering, never ending LOVE of unimaginable depth, and breadth, and intensity.

What if ... I doubted myself, my abilities, my worthiness, and wondered if I even *deserved* to be happy. And YOU said, "You can do it. You have all the skills you need because you can do all things through ME. You are worthy because I am worthy and you are **MY CHILD** and don't you **EVER** forget that! And yes, you will find happiness for I know the plans I have for you and they are glorious."

What if ... I was standing on the edge of the Abyss, ready to take the fall. And YOU, the Fisher of Men, cast your net and engulfed me. If You screamed in to the darkness, "**NO!** This one's MINE! You can't have him!" And no matter how much I fought to get away, You never tired and kept pulling me in until You hauled me aboard, and brought me home. And I LOVED YOU for it.

What if ... when I was filled with doubt and needed guidance, YOU handed me the Handbook for Humanity – full of truths – to light my way.

What if ... after spending a lifetime searching for purpose, the reason for my existence, the meaning behind this rudderless journey I've experienced, YOU broadened my narrowed gauge to discover the answer was right here in front of me the whole time. Waiting, patiently, all around me, and IN me, and reflected in Your beautiful smiling face.

What if ... when I needed a shoulder to cry on, YOU gave me an entire CROSS, to lay my burdens down.

What if ... every time I spoke those two little words, I simply followed them with one more.

What if ... JESUS!