

## ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE

**TITLE:** The Book

**OBJECT:** An antique book

**DOCTRINE:** Sanctification

### STORY WITH THE OBJECT

There are two interesting things about this book:

1. What is written is written.
2. The author is dead.

### TRANSITION TO THE SPIRITUAL

Our lives are like this book.

1. We write things in our lives, and what is written is written.
2. One day we, too, will die.

### THE PROBLEM (LAW)

I don't know about you, but some of the things I've written in my book frighten me, because although I've written some good things, I've also written some bad things. For example, have you ever said something and then you regret having said it? Maybe they were lies or words of criticism or hatred. You want to take them back, but you can't. They are written in your book, and you cannot erase them. Have you ever used God's name as a swear word? The words have been spoken, and what you've written in your book cannot be erased. Have you every had sex outside of marriage? What's done is done, and you cannot erase it from the book of your life.

### THE CONSEQUENCES (ETERNITY)

Just like the author of this book, one day we, too, will die and give an account before our Creator. He will open the book of our lives and we will be judged according to all the things we have written there. He will judge us according to His commandments. Will we be innocent or guilty on that day? Which eternal destiny awaits us? Since nothing wicked can enter heaven, our sinful deeds will separate us from God forever in hell.

### THE SOLUTION (CROSS)

The good news is that God sent Jesus Christ to take away our sin through His death on the cross. His resurrection demonstrates that He is the only one that can erase the sin from our books and present us before God clean and forgiven.

### THE CALL (REPENTANCE AND FAITH)

Come to Jesus today and tell Him, "I give you the book of my life. Erase every sinful thing that is in me, and write a story with my life that pleases You."