

## News Story Summary

April was National Donate Life month when a special effort is made to encourage people to consider organ donation. Around 121,000 people are waiting for an organ in America and a new person is added to the list every 10 minutes.

Sis Baldwin, a columnist for the Zanesville, OH *Times Recorder* points to the crucifixion of Jesus to explain why a person might consider donating his or her organs. She points out that He gave us a second chance through His sacrifice and we can give others a second chance once we leave this earth through donating our organs.

(For more on this, search the Internet using the phrase “Ultimate gift of life”.)

## Focus Attention

To supplement the Focus Attention idea, share the news story and ask: *When Christians consider such sacrificial gifts as organ donation how are they imitating Christ? What other ways might we give of ourselves to show Christ’s love?*

Explain that today’s lesson is focusing on the unparalleled “gift of life” that Christ gave when He died on the cross for us. What we give will pale in comparison to His gift, but we are promised that each gift is also a completion of what He did (Philippians 3:10, Colossians 1:24, 2 Corinthians 1:5-7).

## Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge ideas, remind group members of the news summary and ask: *What emotions would you feel if an organ donation from a thoughtful stranger saved your life or that of someone you loved? How might recalling Christ’s atoning sacrifice on the cross awaken us to our opportunity to show His resurrection life in our daily walk?* Lead the groups to remember that despite the world’s opposition, Jesus did not let the difficulty of the sacrifice inhibit His gift. He “endured the cross” (Hebrews 12:2) and so we should embrace it. Encourage the group members to choose one action this week to share the hope of Christ’s offer.

## Note

The Group Plans for this week call for the use of Pack Item 9 in the Leader Pack. A corrected version can be downloaded from the [Explore the Bible blog](http://ExploreTheBible.com).