

Timothy ... will remind you of my way of life in Christ Jesus, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every church.

Paul - 1 Corinthians 4:17 (NIV)

In Christ

Or don't you know that all of those who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death...burial...and resurrection.

Paul - Romans 6:3-5 (NIV)

David Kuykendall Ministries

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Obey the five commands listed below and experience your life "in Christ." Experience the abundant life through living by grace. Notice that each command is either to believe something or to choose to do something.

THE FIVE COMMANDS

Believe

Romans 6:11

Reckon (believe) yourselves to be dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord

Choose

Romans 6:12

Do not let sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey it in its lusts

Choose

Romans 6:13a

Do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin

Choose/Believe

Romans 6:13b

Present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead.

Choose

Romans 6:13c

[Present] your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

We can and should obey each of these commands because Romans 6:3-5 teaches that all believers have been baptized into Jesus and as a result all believers have been baptized into his death, burial, and resurrection.

"In Christ" Testimony of Billy Deal

Billy Deal is a Christian layman living in Waxahachie, Texas. He became a Christian as a teenager. Today he is a mature believer living out the life of grace. He is a capable and faithful mentor of others. He teaches the message of our union with Christ. He is a strong influence for Christ.

As a teenager, I repented of my sins and received Jesus as Lord of my life. I made a public profession of faith and followed my Savior in baptism.

The period of sovereign grace that followed brought a sense of peace and well-being that was almost euphoric. But like most Christians, the elation I experienced soon began to fade as the trials and temptations of life arose. Like Paul, I often found myself doing things I didn't want to do and failing to do things I should.

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I went to church on Sunday, but rarely spent intimate time with God in His Word and in prayer. And when I came to Him in prayer, I "did all the talking," with the entire focus on me and my perceived needs.

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Then, in 1998, I encountered a personal crisis that

brought me to a place of brokenness and receptiveness to God's will. And almost simultaneously, an unsaved friend began to relentlessly question me about the Bible.

We began having regular Bible study. In my preparations for the studies, the Spirit of God began to reveal truths to me that were staggering. The words began to leap off the page and I found myself immersed in the Word of God for hours on end and being so excited that my heart was pounding.

I began to understand that my relationship with the Lord was not about *performance*, but about *identity*! I realized that when I was saved I became one with Christ and to my amazement, I discovered that I didn't have to struggle and strive to please God in my own strength, but to live out my oneness with Christ!

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Almost immediately the struggle was over. As I began to live out these truths in my life, an amazing adventure began that continues to this day.

As this period of transformation continued, I was invited by a friend to a bible study being taught by Rev. David Kuykendall in Red Oak, Texas. Through Bro. David's teaching ministry, my understanding of living by grace was expanded and tremendously enhanced.

He showed us clearly from Scripture that when we were baptized into Christ, we were spiritually crucified, buried and resurrected.

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He taught that through the “In Christ” truths of Romans and elsewhere, we could *believe* we are one with Christ in crucifixion, burial and resurrection and could *choose* to experience our spiritual crucifixion, burial and resurrection.

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Praise be unto God that my life is no longer one of quiet desperation. I have finally come to know what it really means to love the Lord, and to understand that He loves me with an everlasting, unconditional love.

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I honestly did not believe that anyone, especially someone like me, could experience a foretaste of Heaven in this dark and hurtful world.

But I know now that we don't have to wait until we pass into eternity for the victory celebration to begin. By experiencing our oneness with Christ, we can live in abundance and quiet *jubilation* right here on earth. To Him be all the glory!

SHARE THE MESSAGE

It is not necessary for one who is experiencing his oneness with Christ to wait until he has more maturity in the experience before he begins to share the message with others.

If you are experiencing the life of grace, it could be of the Lord for you to ask Him if you need to be sharing the message with others. If you sense that He wants you to share the message, ask Him to lead you to the right person or persons to share it with.

It is an inspiration and spiritual blessing to see someone with a fire in his heart to tell the lost about Jesus and His wonderful salvation. Consider, though, the letters of Paul, John, Peter, Jude and James. There is little in these 20 letters about winning the lost to Christ. They are letters about living the Christian life. This does not mean the writers did

not consider evangelism important. It does mean that one is prepared for evangelism through Christian growth.

Jesus gave the great commission, but He told His disciples to wait until they were endued with power from on high. He said they would be witnesses when Holy Spirit came upon them.

On the day of Pentecost the 120 were filled with the Holy Spirit and about 3000 people received Jesus as Lord and Savior.

It is likely that we will not have another Pentecost, but we are commanded in Scripture to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

The one certain way for our churches to be filled with the Holy Spirit is for them to experience their spiritual crucifixion, burial and resurrection.

Who among those who are experiencing the life of grace will make himself available to God to share this message? What would happen if each evangelical church had just one member sharing this message with other members?

Some would respond to the message and they would begin to mature as Christians in ways they had never matured before.

Book orders, newsletter contributions, or tax-deductible contributions may be sent to:

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