

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 Janie Kuykendall

For over 53 years Janie Kuykendall has faithfully served the Lord with her husband. In 1971 the Lord revealed to both of them their union with Christ. Along with her husband, Janie still lives out that New Testament message.

For as long as I can remember I have believed that God loves me and from earliest childhood, I have longed to return His love. At 12 years of age I received Jesus into my heart as my personal Lord and Savior.

Throughout my teen years my deep love for God never wavered—it was a continuing standard for me to achieve. Accompanying my longing to love the Lord there was a consuming desire for perfection in all things. I was especially devoted with the desire for lofty achievement in academic and music pursuits.

I believed God was helping me with my accomplishments, though life in those years was not always a lot of fun. With failures came depression because I thought I could do it all.

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In college days God began to change my worldly dedication for success. His leadership led me eventually to become a pastor's wife. All was well for years, but then came a deep jolt that something was wrong. In later years a desire to be more useful as a pastor's wife led me to seek a deeper inward spiritual search.

In addition to the sickness of soul about my inner life, God increased the failures of my outer life.

About this time I noticed a new quality of joyfulness in my husband. I could not understand what had happened to him. For two or three weeks I did not ask him about his new-found joy and he did not

tell me. He was not even aware of my questions about the source of his unusual joyfulness.

Then one day he told me that God had shown him the way to live the Christian life. This was strange coming from a man who had been a pastor for 21 years and with a heart so fully dedicated to the Lord.

He then said that he had found the answer in the sixth chapter of the Book of Romans. Through some books he had been reading, God had revealed to him that he was in oneness with Christ and was already spiritually crucified, buried, and resurrected.

He said he now saw that he was to believe he was dead to sin and alive to God. He saw that he was to believe that he did not have to sin and that he could permit God to live and love through him.

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Through the years my husband and I have learned much more about our oneness with Christ but what little God revealed at the time He used to radically change me also. God sent more changes in my life than I can tell in this brief testimony, but I want to

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share a few of them.

In time, I realized that the Christian life is not passionate commitment on my part but it is availability to God. More and more I am living a life of response rather than one of initiation. The result is that I am "resting from my work" but am actively engaged in His work.

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A new and refreshing love for all people seems now to flow from God's heart into mine, along with a longing for the glory of the Lord. A God-given peace and joy are continually real.

By God's grace I have yielded my children and grandchildren into the Hand of God. It is such a peaceful thing to leave them in the hands of the Heavenly Father.

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For 33 years I have lived out my oneness with Christ in crucifixion, burial, and resurrection. I choose many times during the

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day to experience my oneness with Christ in death, burial, and resurrection by obeying the commands of Romans 6:11-13. As go the words to a song—"The longer I serve Him the sweeter He grows."

I praise His name and trust His grace.

Spreading the Message

The only thorough, lengthy, and organized explanation of the Christian life in the Bible is Romans 5:12-8:39.

The heart of the passage is Romans 6:3-13, which teaches two things. First, verses 3-5 teach that believers have been baptized (by the Holy Spirit) into Jesus and are crucified, buried, and resurrected.

Second, the passage teaches that believers can experience their crucifixion, burial, and resurrection by obeying the five commands of verses 11-13.

In First Corinthians 4:17 Paul writes:

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

Paul wants his readers to understand that his life is "in" Christ Jesus and he teaches the "in Christ" message in all the churches.

If Paul were with us today, he would tell us that we should explain to every believer we baptize that baptism in water is a picture of what happened to him spiritually when he received Jesus as Lord and Savior

He would have us say to new believers, "Your baptism in water is a picture of your baptism into Jesus by the Holy Spirit and it is a picture that both you and Jesus have been crucified, buried, and resurrected."

If Paul were with us today, he would say,

"When you disciple a believer in Christian living, make the 'in Christ' truths the heart of what you teach. Tell him he is already crucified, buried, and resurrected. Tell him that he can experience his crucifixion, burial, and resurrection by obeying the five commands of Romans 6:11-13."

Experience has shown that when a God-loving, hungry-hearted believer understands what Paul teaches about Christian living, he experiences rapid changes for the good in his Christian life.

God is giving an increase of believers who understand and experience their life "in Christ." He is equipping each of them to spread this message to more and more of His children.

New Printing of Oneness

We have just received word from the printers that our new printing of "Oneness" will be shipped next week.

With this new printing we can now supply multiple copies. Because our ministry is funded by love offerings, we make books available at no cost to all who order them.

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

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