

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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Obeys 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.

The Pastor-Teacher

By David Kuykendall

... He gave some... pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry...
Ephesians 4:11-12

Paul is writing concerning God's gifts of Apostles, prophets, evangelists, and pastors for the equipping of God's children to do the work of the ministry. This article concentrates on the work of the pastor only.

The construction of Ephesians 4:11 indicates that the words pastors and teachers refer to the same persons. God's gift to a church is a pastor who is a teacher. 1 Timothy 3:2 says, "A bishop (pastor) ... must be ... able to teach."

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Some pastor-teachers also have other gifts such as motivation, administration, and evangelism. The exercise of these added gifts alone will not spiritually equip born-again members to do the work of the ministry.

The born-again members of the church are called saints. A saint is a person set apart to God. When God saves a person, He sets that person aside to be an available vehicle through which He lives.

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One aspect of the pastor-teacher's equipping work is teaching the saints how to live like saints. Another feature of the pastor-teacher in his equipping ministry is teaching the saints how to prepare for the work of the ministry. He informs his saints how to be servants of God.

The greatest of all servants is the Lord Jesus Christ. Matthew 20:28 records Jesus as saying of Himself:

"... the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

In Philippians 1:21 Paul writes, "For to me to live is Christ." In Colossians 3:4 Paul refers to Jesus as "our life." In Galatians 2:20 Paul writes, "Christ lives in me."

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When Christ becomes the life of—or lives through—a believer to do the work of the ministry, that believer has arrived at the ultimate in Christian service both to God and man.

All born-again members of every pastor's church are distracted by the influences of the world and Satan. The thing that stands in the way of saints living like saints and permitting Jesus to do His work through them is the sin nature they inherited from Adam.

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Through a study of Genesis 3:6 and Romans 1:22, the pastor-teacher shows his saints that all people

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think they are wise. This is the sin nature. It can be called a "know-it-all attitude." The New Testament refers to this sin nature as "sin" and "flesh."

The pastor-teacher shows his saints that the sin-nature can be kept from having power in their lives. He teaches them that according to Romans 6:3-5, when they received Jesus as Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit baptized them into the crucifixion, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.

All of God's saints are already spiritually crucified, buried, and resurrected.

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Therefore, the pastor-teacher teaches his saints that they can keep the sin nature out of power by continuing to experience their crucifixion, burial, and resurrection. They can do so by continuing to obey the five commands of Romans 6:11-13

John 4:14 teaches that when one receives Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes into his life to take control. However, Galatians 5:17 teaches that our sin nature stands in opposition to the Spirit of Christ.

When our sin nature is kept out of power, the Spirit of Christ has no opposition. He, then, can fill us as He has sought to do from the moment He came into our lives to take control.

With the Spirit of Christ in control of our lives, we live the separated life to God, the

life of a saint, and Christ does the work of the ministry through us. When this happens, the church will function as the living body of Christ that she is.

When this happens, the church will function as the living body of Christ that she is.

Jesus does His work of ministry through each saint according to the saint's gifts and callings.

All born-again church members will not respond to the pastor-teacher's spiritual guidance. Some will. For the most part the saints who respond to the pastor's teaching about *experiencing the crucifixion, burial, and resurrection* are those who grieve because they know they are not living like saints.

The spirit of the lives of those who do respond to these teachings will permeate the entire life of their churches.

WEEKLY DEVOTIONALS

Each Sunday morning we email a devotional presenting some aspect of the life of grace. If you would care to be on our list to receive these devotionals, please send us your email address. The devotionals are also posted on our Web Site:

www.livingbygrace.org

NEW BOOK

"Living in the Garden of Grace," a new book,

is now in print and being distributed. The book consists of the devotionals sent by email over the past four years.

"Living in the Garden of Grace" has both an index of themes and an index of Scriptures which make it useful for Bible study.

If you would like to have a complimentary copy of "Living in the Garden of Grace," let us know. If you would like complimentary copies for group Bible studies, we can meet that need also.

GRACE MESSAGE IN AFRICA

The New Testament message of living by God's grace through experiencing one's spiritual crucifixion, burial, and resurrection is being taught in several nations in Africa.

Brother Newton of Kenya is spreading the message throughout Kenya, and other surrounding nations.

Brother Terry Martin of South Africa is teaching the message and soon will be giving much of his time letting others know of their union with Christ. Another ministry in Liberia is considering making the message a part of the curriculum of a new school.

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

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