

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

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.

## MY SEARCH FOR GRACE LED LIFE

Mike Holman

**Mike Holman is a member of our "Living By Grace" board. Because of his contacts and expertise, God has used him greatly in the expansion of this ministry—especially in getting the message of grace into foreign nations and in the printing of the message in other languages.**

As a newly reborn young NASA physicist, at age 22, my life changed dramatically. I moved from the party apartments where I lived and made friends with very different values and priorities. Within a few months my focus had so changed that I decided to leave my job at NASA in Houston and go to Bible school, so I could learn more of the things that really count in eternity.

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The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit had made a profound change in who I had become but I was still troubled by many of my old ways, tendencies and sins. God still had a lot of work to do on me. In Bible school I met and married a godly woman named Ellen, and we had four wonderful children in the next five years. I continued my technical career after graduating from Bible school working in computers and engineering. We were very active in our local church in teaching, discipleship and outreach ministry.

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At the end of the first decade after my conversion I felt deeply that I was missing a vital understanding in my Christian walk. I began to ask why my spiritual life was not as abundant as scripture describes, and why I did not seem to make any real progress in maturing beyond my daily struggles with what seemed like leftovers from my old life. Several people suggested I study the writings of Watchman Nee and Major Ian Thomas for help. In these writings I got clear glimpses of the struggle with the flesh and how we could find ourselves operating on both sides of the river of life, with flesh on one side and spiritual walk on the other. What I needed was a bridge to cross back to the Spirit led river bank when I found myself on the wrong side. I knew that I still needed Biblical understanding that I had not discovered. Intuitively I felt there must be an answer to finding the abundant life promised in John 10:10 on a more consistent basis. It seemed the more committed I was and the harder I tried to overcome the flesh, the stronger it became. I still wondered how to fulfill the statement in Galatians 2:20-21 and let Christ be the one who was continually living in me.

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In 1993, after our kids were grown, God called Ellen and me to represent Him around the world in missions with Mission Aviation Fellowship. We had very fruitful assignments in Albania, Central Asia and Russia, in supporting church planting and developing and distributing church leadership

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training resources. Later that expanded to the Middle East and Africa, and we were able to serve in over 50 countries.

In 2004, nearly 37 years after I had begun my Christian walk, a man gave me the book, "Oneness With Christ," by David Kuykendall, which covered chapters five through eight of Romans. Immediately after reading this book I knew I had found the answer I had been looking for. This study of our crucifixion, burial, and resurrection with Christ and the keys to experiencing the abundant life found in Romans 6 opened my eyes to the truth I had been seeking for over 25 years. As I read, reread and studied this book and the scriptures it referred to, I began to understand the struggles of my Christian walk. Not only did I receive the keys to understand why the Christian life is a daily battle, but also how to experience the victory God made possible through living in Christ. Many other scriptures throughout the Bible also began to come alive to me. They confirmed this new understanding the Holy Spirit had opened through the full understanding of Romans 5-8. God had given this insight to David Kuykendall nearly 25 years earlier.

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Once we realize that the independent "I" must die and be replaced with a dependent life in Christ many things start to change. No longer do we need to analyze how to please God and do things for Him. Instead, we can know we are His. He has plans for us that will allow us to bring Him glory. He is working through us, as His chosen vessel, to desire and to do His good pleasure. His yoke is easy because it is designed to fit your availability. The burden of trying to earn His approval goes away once we understand that our life in

Him and His life in us leads to the abundant life He promised. More and more we realize it's all about Him and not about us.

I think this message of living by grace is tragically lacking in most of our evangelism and discipleship efforts. We teach people how to be saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, but we fail to teach them how to experience the abundant life available to us in Christ. We fail to teach them about their crucifixion, burial and resurrection in union with Christ. Since coming to understand this New Testament message, I treasure the opportunity I have had to teach it to pastors, church leaders and disciples around the world. This truth is the "pearl of great price" in that Jesus' lordship, His kingdom, is realized in us through our union with Him in death, burial and resurrection.

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Please understand that all of our struggles don't go away once we start to experience that which we had all along in Christ. Once we realize that we were called out from among the dead ones to have abundant life, our life in Him begins to mature. This knowledge allows us to know what is happening when we find ourselves on the flesh-led side of the river. The key is to pray to God thanking Him that we don't have to be there, and cross over to the Spirit-led side by obeying the five commands of Romans 6:11-13. In union with Christ we can choose to make our body and its members unavailable to sin, and in union with Christ we can choose to make them available to God for His life and purposes in us. This is the key to the abundant life Christ promised both now and forever.

You can receive the book "Our Oneness With Christ" as a gift from our corporation.

### OUR BOOK MINISTRY

"Our Oneness With Christ" was the first book we printed. This was in 1980. Among other books printed later was "Here's Life."

In those early days of the ministry, we sold our books just for enough money to do more printing when we needed to. We have never made a profit. Every dollar we received from the sale of our books we use to print more books.

However, a number of years ago, the Lord impressed us to cease selling our books. His guidance was to make gifts of them because the message of living by grace is so essential for living out the abundant life.

From that time until now, we have trusted the Lord to provide the funds for the books through gifts from those whose lives have been blessed by the books. Since then, we have printed and distributed many thousands of books. We have books in every state in our nation and in over 40 other nations.

We recently printed an abridged copy of "Our Oneness With Christ." This presents all the basic truths of the message of grace in 54 pages. We now have three different versions of "Oneness:" a large workbook, a regular size book, and the abridged version.

We invite you to go to our Web Site and see all of the information about our books. Our Web Site is:

**[www.livingbygrace.org](http://www.livingbygrace.org)**

Go to the "Book" section of our Web Site and see all that we provide at no cost to you. We even pay the postage. You will also find a feature called "Electronic" books. Here you can download to your computer any of our books—again, at no cost to you.

We joyfully receive gifts for the spread of this message from any whose lives have been blessed and changed from reading and experiencing the abundant life of grace.

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

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