

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)

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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.

A CHAMPION FOR GRACE

By John Belken

John Belken is the Investigator for the State Parole Board for the state of Arkansas. In this article, he introduces us to Ken Langster, a godly man who was a true "champion" for the message of grace.

During my first year as a student in the Seminary, I noticed an advertisement in the school cafeteria for a one year Chaplaincy Intern position at the Cummins Prison in Grady, Arkansas. Believing at the time that the Lord was leading me into correctional chaplaincy, my wife Jean and I prayed about it. The Lord convinced us that we should apply for the position. I was interviewed and accepted for this position.

One of my responsibilities was coordinating and supervising the "religious" volunteers. One of my volunteers was Ken Langster, a semi-retired real estate man. Ken had devoted his life to sharing the Gospel to those in jails, prisons, half-way houses, foreign countries and in cities across the nation.

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Ken and I soon developed a close friendship. It was during our times of sharing about the Lord that I introduced Ken to the Biblical teaching of the life of grace. I shared with Ken how I was introduced to David Kuykendall and his book "Our Oneness with Christ" only a few years earlier. I told Ken how these truths changed every area of my life and that I wanted to teach these truths for the rest of my life.

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Ken, who loved to talk about the Lord, wanted to know more about living by grace. I showed him out of Romans 6 that we were baptized into Christ by the Holy Spirit at our conversion experience. I explained to him that when we were baptized into Christ, we were baptized into His crucifixion, burial and resurrection. Also, I showed him that he could experience his spiritual crucifixion, burial and resurrection by obeying the five commands of Romans 6:11-13.

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I explained to him that when we experience these things, we are no longer under the power of sin and that we were free from the law and under grace (Romans 6:14).

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I also taught him that as we experience our Oneness with Christ in crucifixion, burial and resurrection, we put our sin nature out of power. We are to reckon (believe) ourselves to be dead to our sin nature of thinking we are wise and that we are alive unto God. We must choose not to live out of our sin nature and to make ourselves available to God.

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When I concluded my internship, I gave Ken a copy of "Our Oneness with Christ" Ken was always interested in talking about the Lord, but I did not know at the time if his "spiritual eyes" were opened to these truths.

I had very little contact with Ken over the next 3 years. After Seminary, I was accepted as a chaplain at Cummins, the same prison unit I had worked in as an interim.

When I saw Ken, he told me that he had read the book I left him and that the message of grace had changed his life.

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Ken wanted more books to share with those to whom he was ministering in the prisons and around the country. Until his death in 2005 at the age of 83, Ken taught the message of grace wherever he went.

Ken started the first class at the Cummins unit on the theme of our oneness with Christ. He also made trips to Dallas to participate in the board meetings of David Kuykendall Ministries. He made videos of Brother David teaching the message of grace. These video recordings continue to be used in teaching grace in Arkansas prisons.

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The impact of Ken's life lives on through the lives of those he taught. For ten years Ken and I taught Herbert "Herb" Wilson, an inmate at Cummins the message of grace. Today Herb is out of prison and being used of God in a powerful way as an evangelist.

He is a gifted and talented preacher. He also teaches the message of grace as Ken and I taught him. This facet of his ministry is primarily in jails and prisons.

There is no way of knowing how many lives Ken touched. I'm sure it is in the thousands.

I had lunch with Ken two days before he was hospitalized with a heart attack. He was on his way to one of the prisons to teach the message of grace. In the back of his van were numerous copies of "Our Oneness with Christ" and video versions of Oneness. He lived only two days after he entered the hospital.

NEWS FROM OUR CORPORATION

Some years ago, a godly pastor in South Carolina came into possession of a copy of "Our Oneness With Christ." God used it to be a blessing to him. He began telling other pastors about it and they began ordering our books. The pastors began teaching and preaching to their members about the life of grace. Members of their churches responded to the message and joined them is experiencing grace for daily living.

A number of those who entered the life of grace are truck drivers. God gave them a burden to have a ministry to others of their profession. It has grown into an expansive and effective ministry.

Several months ago they begin to get in touch with us and ask for books to send to others. We have been delighted to provide them.

Their ministry over the Internet and radio now extends to every nation on earth. They have been told that some in the military in Iraq and Afghanistan listen in to their programs. A few weeks ago, they got in touch with Brother David, the president of our corporation, and asked him to speak over the Internet in a one hour service each Tuesday in October. He did that this past Tuesday. We were told today that it has gone out to the nations.

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

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