

So Great a Salvation
#2: Jesus Our Identity
2 Corinthians 5:17

Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!
(2 Cor 5:17)

The real you is in Christ and Christ in you.

A) Your new creation is a new “heart” (and new desires- Ezek 36:26-27)
YOU DIED (cf. Gal 2:20; Col 2:20; 3:3; 2 Tim 2:11)

B) Your new relationship with sin (You hate it)
(Rom 5:20-21; 6:1-2, 6-7; 7:15-20; Gal 5:17)
Paul said: “I am not really the one sinning; it is this disease of sin living in me that does it.”

C) Your new identity is Christ in you
(Gal 2:20) “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.”
(Eph 4:24) “Put on your new nature, created [already!] to be like God—truly righteous and holy.”
Spiritual growth is not gradually having more of Christ in you. It is letting the complete Christ in you more consistently control you.

Applications

- 1) When the Freedom study is completed, do it.
- 2) Carefully study the FAITH study of the *Christian Essentials*.
- 3) Remember that the Christians in your family and church have a good heart.

Discussion ?’s

- 1) What was most meaningful to you about the Sunday message?
- 2) What happened to you when the Holy Spirit indwelt you? Share some effects of this that you experienced when you became a Christian.
- 3) Paul claimed it was not him that was sinning (Rom 7:17, 20). What does that mean to you? How could this help you when you sin?
- 4) What was meant by the statement: “Spiritual growth is letting the complete Christ in you more consistently control you?” What was said about how to grow in this? (cf. Rom 12:2).
- 5) How can this teaching help you have more compassion when Christians sin?