

Transformation

(Part 1)

What is the Truth about Living The Christian Life?

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What Is The Truth About Living The Christian Life?

What Is Your Spiritual Destiny?

*“For whom He foreknew, **He also predestined** to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren.” Romans 8:29*

*“And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, **are being transformed into His likeness** with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”*

2 Corinthians 3:18

*“My children, with whom I am again in labor until **Christ is formed IN you.**” Galatians 4:19*

**Your Spiritual Destiny:
To be transformed into the LIKENESS of Christ
which means that you will think, believe, choose, and behave like Christ.**

What Do You Believe About Living The Christian Life?

Jesus says the following: *“...**I AM** the way, the truth, and **the LIFE**...” John 14:6*

*“...**I AM** the resurrection and **the LIFE**.” John 11:25*

What Paul says: *“...**Christ** who is **YOUR** life...” Colossians 3:4*

*“For me, to live **IS** **Christ**...” Philippians 1:21*

Jesus not only came to give you eternal life. He wants to BE your LIFE!

In other words, the Christian life is a Person. It is Christ HIMSELF.

What Does It Mean That Christ Is Your Life?

*“**He** is the **SOURCE** of your life in Christ Jesus..” 1 Corinthians 1:30*

*For **from Him** and **through Him** and **to Him** are all things.....” Romans 11:36*

*“**IN HIM** we **live** and **move** and have our **being**.” Acts 17:28*

Christ as your life means that God is the SOURCE from Whom you are to live life.

What are some of the ways that God is your Source as revealed in scripture?

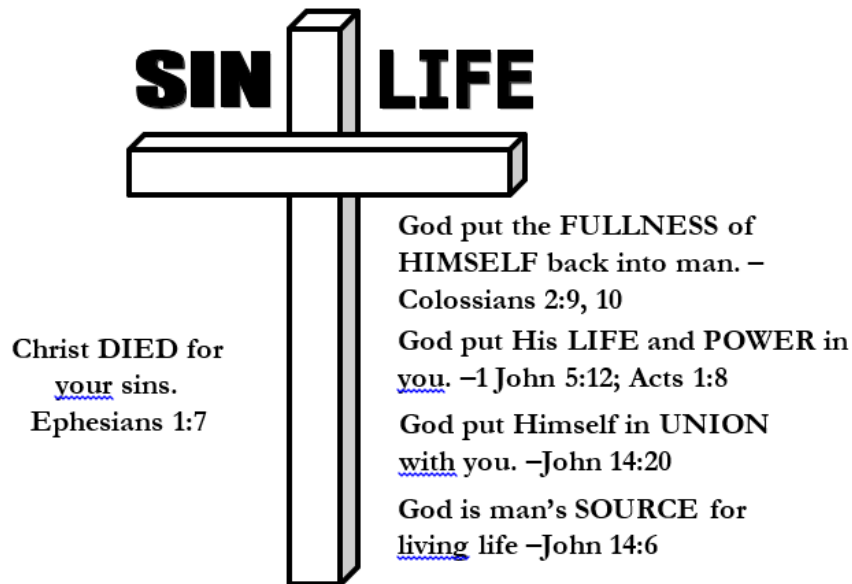
- To meet your needs. - Philippians 4:19

- To be your power over sin. - 1 John 3:6
- To produce the fruit of the Spirit in your life. - Galatians 5:22, 23
- To transform your life so that you will think, feel, choose and behave like Christ – 2 Corinthians 3:18

Since God is the Source, He DOES NOT and WILL NOT help you be the source to solve your problems, resolve your conflicts, or to live the Christian life.

How Do We Know That God Is To Be Our Source?

The Two Sides of The Cross



Since God Is Your Source He Wants To Live His Life IN You

*“I am crucified with Christ, and I **no** longer live, but **Christ** lives **IN** me ...” Galatians 2:20*

***The Christian life is not a life you live FOR God.
It is a life He wants to live IN you with the result that you are living FROM Him.***

What Does It Look Like For God To Live His Life In You?

- **VICTORY** – God as your Source is your victory over the power of sin, the flesh, the world, and Satan. - 1 Corinthians 15:57
- **FREEDOM** – God is your Source to free you from your sin patterns and strongholds that constantly defeat you. – Galatians 5:1
- **RENEW** – God will renew your mind to believe His truth - Romans 12:2
- **HEALING** – God is your source to heal you of your past and present woundedness. - Psalm 147:3
- **SUPPLY** – God is your Source to meet every need in your life. - Philippians 4:19
- **INTIMACY** – God is your Source to draw you into an intimate relationship with Himself. Ephesians 1:5
- **TRANSFORMATION** – Transform you to think, feel, choose, behave like Christ. – 2 Corinthians 3:18

As Your Source, God Will Is The INITIATOR and CAUSE and EFFECT To Make His Promises An Experiential Reality In Your Life

*“For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began (INITIATOR) a good work in you will perfect (CAUSE and EFFECT) it until the day of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 1:6
(Parentheses mine)*

*God will be the cause and effect to make His promises of
TRANSFORMATION a reality in your life.*

In other words, it is THROUGH Him that you will fulfill your SPIRITUAL DESTINY.

The Truth Is That You CAN'T Produce What Only God Can Produce In You!

“...for apart from Me you can do NOTHING.” John 15:5b

Jesus is saying that you CAN'T produce Christ-likeness INDEPENDENTLY of His life and power accomplishing it in you.

Since You Cannot Produce God's Promises, What Is Your Part In Living The Christian Life?

“I am the vine, you are the branches; he who ABIDES in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.” John 15:5

*Your part in the Christian life is to **DEPEND ON, RELY ON, and DRAW FROM** the life and power of Christ within you.*

We Learn Dependence From Jesus In Relationship To His Father

Jesus Set Aside His Privileges To Be Co-Equal With The Father

*“He (Jesus) had equal status with God but didn’t think so much of Himself that He had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, **He set aside the privileges of deity** and took on the status of a slave and became human!” Philippians 2:6, 7 NLT (Parenthesis mine)*

Jesus Lived TOTALLY Dependent On The Father

*“I can do **nothing on My own initiative**. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.” John 5:30*

*“Jesus therefore said, ‘When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do **nothing on My own initiative**, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me.’” John 8:28*

Jesus Did Not Function Out of His OWN Life and Power But Out of The Life and Power of His FATHER.

*“Don’t you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words I say are not my own, but **my Father who lives in Me does His work through Me**.” John 14:10*

How Did Paul Live?

*“For I would not dare say anything except **what Christ has accomplished through me** to make the Gentiles obedient by word and deed.” Romans 15:18*

*“For this purpose also **I labor according to His power**, which mightily works within me.” Colossians 1:29*

Why Do We Struggle With Dependence?

1. PRIDE
2. The world continually gives us the message that you are to be INDEPENDENT.
3. The world also sends the message that dependence is WEAKNESS.
4. There is a part of man’s makeup that resists being dependent on God called THE FLESH. (Flesh is an attitude that says “I can live my life independent of God.”)

Self-Focused Grid (Living From the Flesh) (The Lie)

The Christian Life Is A Life Of Performance

The Christian life is a formula, set of rules to follow, checklist to complete

Self As The Source To Live The Christian Life

You are the source using God's truth and your intellect and ability to live the Christian life

Living FOR God

Trying in your own strength to please God and to earn His love and acceptance

Self-Transformation With God's Help

Trying by your own effort w/God's help to produce, victory, freedom, healing, and transformation.

Independent Life

Living independently of God to try to live the Christian life.

Faith In Yourself With God's Help

Faith in your intellect, ability, self-discipline, and willpower with God's help to produce the Christian

Results In:

More flesh, sin, frustration, defeat, woundedness.
Disillusionment and walking away from the Christian life or just trying harder to make life work
No transformation
Continuing to live a self-sufficient Christian life
Ongoing turmoil and conflict
More of the same or worse

Christ-Focused Grid (Living In Christ) (The Truth)

The Christian Life Is Christ

Christ Himself is the Christian life. or a.
John 14:6; Philippians 1:21

God As Source To Live The Christian Life

Living from God's life and power as the Source to live the Christian life. John 14:6; Acts 17:28

Living FROM God

Allowing Christ to live His life in and through you.
Galatians 2:20

God-Produced Transformation

God as the Source to produce victory, freedom healing, and transformation.
1 Corinthians 1:30

Dependent Life

Living in moment by moment dependence on God as your Source for living the Christian life. John 15:5

Faith In God

Faith in God alone with the result that His life and power will flow in and through you to produce transformation into Christ-likeness. 1 John 5:12;

Results In:

Freedom, victory, healing - Galatians 5:1;
1 Corinthians 15:57; Psalm 147:3
Greater dependence upon God - John 15:5
Deeper intimacy with Him - Philippians 3:8
Being transformed into Christ-likeness -
2 Corinthians 3:18; Romans 8:29
Abundant life - John 10:10