



Be In Christ

APPETIZER: What's in a Name?

- Names point to our identity
- Names are code for what we value
- Names remind us of who we aspire to be

DINE IN: Beloved, Belong, Become

2 Corinthians 5:17

BELOVED

- Our identity in Christ allows us to set aside our egos, see others through Jesus and seek unity

John 14:21; John 17:21

BELONG

- We don't belong to the darkness, we belong to the light.

Job 12:13,16; 1 Thessalonians 5:5; Romans 14:8

TAKE OUT: Who Are You Becoming?

"If you are more cranky after following Jesus for years, something is wrong with your discipleship journey."

BECOME

- We are set free from sin
- Let us tirelessly do good to others

Romans 6:18; Galatians 6:9

NEXT WEEK: WAY TO PRAY

We kick off the New Year learning by doing!

Home Church Questions

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. After reviewing Sunday's message, talk about something you learned or any questions that remain.

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

2. Read **2 Corinthians 5:14-19**.
 - a. What verse or idea stands out to you? Why?
 - b. In **verse 14**, Paul declares that "we are compelled by the love of Christ." What do you think that means? How does being compelled by love change who we are and what we do?
 - c. In **verse 15**, we are told that "we no longer live for ourselves." How has Christ's love compelled you to no longer live for yourself? Describe tangible changes in your life as a result of knowing the love of Christ.
 - d. What is the difference between a "worldly point of view" and the way Jesus views us and others? (**v. 16-17**)
 - e. We are commissioned as ambassadors of Jesus, doing the work of reconciliation. As a reconciler and ambassador, what is your main message? Take turns practicing communicating this message to your group and ask for suggestions on how to be clearer to someone unfamiliar with Christianity.

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

2. Use your Huddle Handout Questions and pray for one another.

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Quotes

The church is not a theological classroom. It is a conversion, confession, repentance, reconciliation, forgiveness and sanctification center, where flawed people place their faith in Christ, gather to know and love him better, and learn to love others as he designed.

~Paul David Tripp

Jesus did not die for people to be religious. He died so that we might believe in Him and be transformed.

~John Rucyahana, Bishop of Rwanda

The Cross is the ultimate evidence that there is no length the love of God will refuse to go in effecting reconciliation.

~R. Kent Hughes

A Christian reveals true humility by showing the gentleness of Christ, by being always ready to help others, by speaking kind words and performing unselfish acts, which elevate and ennoble the most sacred message that has come to our world.

~Ellen G. White

Truth, according to the Christian faith, is God's love for us in Jesus Christ. Therefore, truth is a relationship.

~Pope Francis

Being a Christian is more than just an instantaneous conversion - it is a daily process whereby you grow to be more and more like Christ.

~Billy Graham

True Christlikeness, true companionship with Christ, comes at the point where it is hard not to respond as he would."

~Dallas Willard

Drinking beer is easy. Trashing your hotel room is easy. But being a Christ follower, that's a tough call. That's rebellion.

~Alice Cooper