



The Primary Purpose of the Christ-life

If you have received the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, then He now lives in you.

Galatians 2:20, I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Colossians 1:27, . . . Christ in you, the hope of glory

As a recipient of the Christ-life, your identity in Jesus is secure. (*For a comprehensive description of who you are in Christ, see **Your Identity in Christ** at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Your%20Identity%20in%20Christ.pdf>*)

As a believer in Christ, you are a new creation.

2 Corinthians 5:17, Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

As a result of the unfathomable spiritual transformation that occurred when you received Christ, you are divinely enabled to become more like Christ over the course of your life.

Romans 8:29-30, For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;³⁰ and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

2 Corinthians 3:18, But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Ephesians 1:3-6, Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love⁵ He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

As a new creation in Christ, your primary purpose from which all other purposes flow is to bring glory to God in every area of your life (*1 Corinthians 10:31*) as you become more and more like Jesus Christ (*Romans 8:29-30 above; Ephesians 4:22-24, Philippians 1:6, 21*).

1 Corinthians 10:31, Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Ephesians 4:22-24, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit,²³ and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind,²⁴ and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of God* has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

Philippians 1:6, 21, *For I am* confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. . . .²¹ For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

*For insight into what it means to glorify God in practical aspects of your life, see **Do All for the Glory of God** at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Do%20All%20For%20the%20Glory%20of%20God.pdf>*

However, you did not come to Christ on your own terms (*see Romans 8:29-30 and Ephesians 1:3-6 above*), and neither will you become more Christ-like or enabled to give God glory according to your own power or insight.

Titus 2:11-14, For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,¹² instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,¹³ looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,¹⁴ who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

Jesus told His disciples in Matthew 16:24 of the path they were to follow.

Matthew 16:24, Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.”

Similarly, in Philippians 2:12-13, the Apostle Paul reminded believers of their responsibility to obey God's Word, assuring them of God's enablement.

Philippians 2:12-13, So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure.

By God's grace, you can experience the on-going reality of the Christ-life by faith (*see Galatians 2:20 above*) as you obey God's Word (*2 Timothy 3:16-17, James 1:21-25*) and, thus, bring glory to God.

2 Timothy 3:16-17, All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

James 1:21-25, Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. ²² But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. ²⁵ But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

For further study, see:

Is Jesus Lord of Your Life? at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Is%20Jesus%20Lord%20of%20Your%20Life.pdf>

Knowing Jesus or Just Knowing *About* Jesus at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Knowing%20Jesus.pdf>

Abiding in God ... A Necessity for Christ-like Development at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Abiding%20in%20God%20A%20Necessity%20for%20Christ-like%20Development.pdf>

Becoming a Christ-like Servant at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Becoming%20a%20Christ-like%20Servant.pdf>

God's Motivation for Your Life at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Gods%20Motivation%20with%20outline.pdf>

Grace, Mercy, and Peace at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Grace.%20Mercy.%20and%20Peace.pdf>

God's Truth is Your Foundation for Life at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Gods%20Truth%20is%20Your%20Foundation%20for%20Life.pdf>

Christ Crucified: The Solution to Self-Dependency at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Christ%20Crucified%20Study%20with%20Outline.pdf>

God's Grace Overshadows our Obedience at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Gods%20Grace%20Overshadows%20Our%20Obedience.pdf>

Gratifying Yourself or Glorifying Your Savior at <http://wordtruth.org/PDF/Gratifying%20Yourself%20or%20Glorifying%20Your%20Savior.pdf>