



EQUIP



Union with Christ

Scripture

“For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His.”
Romans 6:5

“...We abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.”
1 John 4:13

Study

The Gospel and Union with Christ

- All the benefits of the gospel are received in union with Christ.
- This union with Christ results not only in a new life, but also in a new identity.

Understanding Union with Christ

- “In Christ” (*2 Corinthians 5:17*) + “Christ in you” (*Colossians 1:27*) = Union with Christ.
- The Holy Spirit unites us to Christ (*1 John 4:13; Romans 8:9-10*).
- In Christ, we have every spiritual blessing (*Ephesians 1:3-14*).

Instances of Union with Christ

- There are over 250 references to union with Christ in the New Testament.
- *Ephesians 1:3-14* is one example of the importance of union with Christ.
 - Being in Christ is mentioned 8 times in this passage.
 - According to this passage, “in Christ” we have election, adoption, redemption, forgiveness, blessing, salvation, and the seal of the Holy Spirit.

Images of Union with Christ

- Union with Christ is portrayed in Scripture through a variety of metaphors.
 - Marriage: Jesus is the groom; the church is His bride (*Ephesians 5:23*).
 - Vineyard: Jesus is the vine; Christians are the branches (*John 15:1-17*).
 - Body: Jesus is the head; the church is His body (*Ephesians 4:15-16*).
 - Temple: Jesus is the cornerstone; Christians are the blocks (*Ephesians 2:19-22*).

Union with Christ and the Gospel

- We are united to Christ in His death and resurrection.
- Our union with Jesus in His death and resurrection is displayed in baptism and the Lord’s Supper.

Discussion

- What is the difference between being unified with Christ and merely imitating Him?
- What are common ways that people separate the blessings of Christ from Christ Himself?
- Read *Galatians 2:20*. How should being united to the crucified and resurrected Jesus impact your daily life?