

4-23-2025 “New Covenant Identity”

On Sunday we explored the reality that becoming a “Christian” is not just a decision but more like the commitment a person makes when they enter a COVENANT.

Know...

Specifically, the moment a person believes in and receives Jesus, they are adopted into a NEW COVENANT and become sons and daughters of God (John 1:12). The NEW COVENANT supersedes and surpasses the Old Covenant.

Click the link below to read about the NEW COVENANT or click the embedded link the embedded link to watch a short video.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/new-covenant.html>

As part of the NEW COVENANT, we are included into the Trinitarian Community, and the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in us.

This is fulfillment of Jesus prayer in the Upper Room before his betrayal. Jesus prays ... “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are **in me**, and **I in you**, that they also may be **in us**, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” *John 17:20-21*

Believers are described

- as “**IN** Christ” 146 times,
- “**IN** the Father” 16 times,
- and “**IN** the Spirit” 25 – 30 times.

As part of our NEW COVENANT union with Jesus we are included into his death and resurrection.

Reflect On Scripture... Romans 6:1-13

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not **know** that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ 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.

⁶ We **know** that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

⁹ We **know** that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³ Do not **present** your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness but **present** yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

Reflect with Holy Spirit...

- ⇒ Holy Spirit do I live more like an orphan or like I am united to Jesus? Why? When do I struggle to walk in my identity as united with Jesus?
- ⇒ Holy Spirit convince me that the power of sin has been crucified. In what areas do I need to consider myself dead to sin and alive to God?
- ⇒ Holy Spirit, are there areas I am presenting my body, time, resources, attention or affection more to the enemy (world, flesh and devil) than to Jesus?
- ⇒ Holy Spirit what delights you about our covenant relationship?

PRAY...

- For yourself, family and micro church to walk more fully in your NEW COVENANT identity.
- For opportunities to showcase how kind and wonderful Jesus is, (thru acts of kindness, words of prayer, testimonies of what Jesus has done in your life, or demonstrations of Jesus power).

- Pray for new people and families to join our movement.
- Pray for our joint service May 4 with Messenger Church joining us @ the Empty Cup @ 10 a.m. For God to reveal how he would like us to partner in mission or encourage each other.