

# Union with Christ

## 3: Why We Need It

# Brief Review

## 2. What is Union with Christ?

# What, Exactly, Is Union with Christ?

*1. You are in Christ.*

*2. Christ is in you.*

# What Does It Mean to Be “In Christ”?

- Christ represent us
  - Example: soccer forward scoring winning goal
  - David and Goliath
- This is very thorough!
  - We have been **crucified with** Christ (Gal 2:20)
  - We have been **buried with** Christ (Rom 6:4)
  - We have been **raised with** Christ (Col 3:1)
  - We have been **seated with** Christ in the heavenly places (Eph 2:6)

Paul had to invent new Greek words for these!

# What Does It Mean that “Christ is in Us/You?”

- John 13-14 – The Promised Holy Spirit
- Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ
  - Christ lives in me

## Christ in You = Change

- Endwelling Holy Spirit
- New Life / His Life / Power to Change
- Purpose = Growth to Maturity
  - To become more like Christ

# A Definition by John Calvin

- 1. You are in Christ.*
- 2. Christ is in you.*

"the union by which we grow together with Christ so that Christ revives us by his Spirit and transfers His power to us."



# Union with Christ

## 3: Why We Need It



# How does “Union with Christ” affect how we live each day?

*Our understanding of union with Christ has very real & practical **reverberations** throughout our daily lives: **it reverberates** ...*

1. Into our pursuit of godliness.
2. In our shared life in community.
3. In our witness to the world in mission.

*Explain?*

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describe how a Christian is to  
live each day?

# How does the Bible describe how a Christian is to live each day?

- *“Be transformed” (Romans 12:2)*
- *Given new heart (Ezek. 36:26)*
- *New minds (1 Cor. 2:16)*
- *“new self” (Eph. 4:24)*
- *See the world through new eyes (2 Cor. 5:16)*
- *“shine like stars” in the world (Phil. 2:15)*

# Do our lives reflect this reality?

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- *Given new heart (Ezek. 36:26)*
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# REMEMBER THE GAP:

## Chapter 1

# The Gap

What the gospel says  
is true of me (I'm  
forgiven, accepted,  
and secure)

What I say I believe

Grand, high  
promises of God

How I really see  
myself

What I'm experiencing

Gritty details of our  
everyday lives

Examples?

Question from a skeptic: "If the gospel is supernatural, as you say, then why doesn't it seem to make more of a difference in the lives of so many who claim to believe it?"

# How do we deal with the GAP?



*The Gap between how we live out each day and God's description of how His children are to live.*

*What motivates us to bridge that Gap?*

# Two Motivational Songs to Bridge the Gap

- *The Way of Extravagant Grace*
- *The Way of Radical Discipleship*



Video Link: “Union with Christ” Unit 1 – Porterbrook Course: <https://youtu.be/7GcX1U-kLVo>