

Alive in Christ

Ephesians 2:3-9 (niv) All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. ⁴But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast.

We share in the authority of Christ.

Luke 10:17-19 (niv); Acts 3:6 (niv)

Ephesians 3:20 (niv) Now to him who can do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

As Christians, we should be outworking Christ's power within us!

God is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

The miracles we see in the Bible are applicable for today. His miracle working power is the same.

God wants us to use all of His authority.

We have spiritual blessings through our position in the heavenly realm *Ephesians 1:3-14*

What is stopping us from using our authority in Christ?

Self-centeredness is linked with fluctuating happiness.

Self-lessness is linked with authentic-durable happiness.

Philippians 2:4 (niv); Romans 8:5-9 (msg)

Don't look at your earthly truth, look at your spiritual truth - **who God is!**

Psalms 16:8 (niv)

Ephesians 6:11 (niv)

If you feel defeated, think about **who** God is and His **goodness**.

Read the **Word** and **believe** for a spiritual revelation.

James 4:7 (niv)

Australian society has changed dramatically over the past 50 years regarding its Christian beliefs.

How do we respond to this?

Colossians 2:8-9 (nlt)

John 6:53-55 (niv)

How do we avoid becoming numb and to remain alive in Christ?

1. SACRIFICE

To sacrifice our selfish desires, allowing God to be all he wants to be in our lives.

Psalms 44:6-8 I put no trust in my bow, my sword does not give me victory; but you give us victory over our enemies, you put our adversaries to shame. In God we make our boast all day long, and we will praise your name forever.

Our victory is found in the death and resurrection of Christ, not in our own merit.

Colossians 2:10 (tpt) And our own completeness is now found in him. We are completely filled with God as Christ's fullness overflows within us. He is the Head of every kingdom and authority in the universe.

We must understand that we need him entirely. Our completeness is found in him!

2. HAVE A DEEP DESIRE TO DISCOVER ALL OF GODS GOODNESS.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Ephesians 6:16-17 (niv)

Knowledge = machinery, a deep desire drives the machinery.

Deep desire is knowledge set aflame within us.

Matthew 9:28-29 (niv)

We should desire to discover all of Gods goodness and power.

Pray for spiritual revelation as you read the word, shown in *Ephesians 1:17-20 (niv)*

Seek to know all that God has for you.

3. PRAISE

One thing we can offer God is Praise.

Praise in all circumstances!

Habakkuk 3:17-18 Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails, and the fields produces no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, **yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Saviour.**

*Psalm 18:2, Deuteronomy 31:8, Jeremiah 29:11,
James 1:5, Ephesians 2:6, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.*

Fix your eyes on Jesus. Our earthly realm is temporary, our spiritual realm is eternal.

Are we alive in Christ?

God has given us a choice. We will only go as far as we are willing to go.

When we are alive in Christ, the potential is limitless, and it is far beyond our imaginations!

God wants us to know that there are limitless possibilities in Him. With a deep desire, we should discover all of God's goodness.

We are not limited to our earthly realm, we have so much to discover through the spiritual realm through Christ's power in us.