ON YOUR OWN

1. In order to get you started on this wonderful discovery, a little booklet has been prepared to help you through the entire book of Ephesians, to find 30 different truths about the new creation you are IN CHRIST JESUS.

It is entitled Now That I am Born Again

Each day, for a month, you can read and digest one page, make some notes and then Thank your Heavenly Father for what He has created you to be.

2. And then, you can obtain a "Who Am I Card?," listing 33 verses from the Bible, in three categories,

I am accepted, I am secure, & I am significant.

Keep this card in your Bible, beside your bed, on your desk, or somewhere that you will see it many times a day.

"Understanding your identity in Christ is absolutely essential to your success at living the Victorious Christ life!"

"The more you reaffirm who you are in Christ, the more your behaviour will begin to reflect your true identity."

Let's pray this prayer together.

Lord Jesus, I thank you for coming into my spirit. Heavenly Father, I thank you for placing me into Christ Jesus. Thank you that you have provided for all of my needs in Christ, and that His Life now in me makes me totally acceptable to You. I do hereby receive the precious gift of your righteousness. I now know that I am the righteousness of God in Christ. Thank you for supplying all of my needs for love, joy, and peace, because Jesus brings me all of these things. Amen.

Our next session is Discovering more of CHRIST LIVING IN ME.

Time	Place	Date

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All born again Christians know Christ as Saviour. Many Christians know Christ as Lord Very few Christians know Christ as their LIFE!



THROUGH THE CROSS

air havens

Community

Church

Life Essentials

STEP 2

Revised June 2019

LIFE ESSENTIALS

Lesson 2

A NEW CREATION IN CHRIST JESUS

Review On Your Own 1 John 5:1	1, 12. <u> </u>	_Check after
quoting it correctly from memory.		

You have begun a new life in Jesus Christ, a life with tremendous potential if lived as God intended. There are Biblical principles in Gods Word that tell us some things which will enable us to experience this new life in Jesus Christ.

In this session we will discuss:

- 1. More about "Christ in You."
- 2. Discovering that we are "IN CHRIST.
- 3. An Introduction to God's Righteousness.
- 4. Getting into the treasures of being In Christ.

1. CHRIST IN YOU

From our first lesson, we learned from Revelation 3:20;

Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.

But how can another person live in us?

God's Word, the Bible explains in.

I Thessalonians 5:23 .God created in three parts yet one;

may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame."

We are made up of three parts,,,	
Notice the order, the first is most important.	
The most important to God is your	_, because He is Spirit.

4. GETTING INTO GOD'S TREASURES

Once we have discovered that we are righteous IN CHRIST, we are more easily able to understand how we also have *many other* riches IN HIM.

Here are three good examples:

Romans 8:1

"there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

God will never hold anything against you. You are in Christ!

Colossians 2:10

"in Him you have been made complete,"

The RSV Bible says for the same verse:

"you have come to fullness of life in him,"

The rest of your time here on earth can be a wonderful discovery of what you already have in Jesus Christ.

Philippians 4:19

Spirit

Soul Body "my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Everything you need is already given to you in Christ Jesus.

By the obedience of the One man. Who?
Here then are three ways to see HOW God has made you righteous.
BY SPIRITUAL BIRTH God has given you a new life, His life,
and you are a of God.
God's children are righteous by into Christ and His family.
BY A GIFT GIVEN TO YOU by God, and you have received it. He has given you His righteousness, and now it is
BY THE OBEDIENCE OF CHRIST and because you are, He makes you as righteous as is. It is not by your obedience, but by's obedience.
How important is this matter of being righteous?
Jesus put it in first place when he taught in Matthew 6:33
"But seek <u>first</u> His kingdom and <u>His righteousness</u> , and all these things will be added to you."
Everything else in the kingdom of God comes after this.
Why might we have to seek God's righteousness?
It may well be that we are so stuck on our own way of living, that it will be hard for us to believe that there is another way, God's way.

When Jesus comes into us, He removes the dead spirit part of us that we inherited from Adam, He gives us a new spirit, so now we have His life.

Jesus talked about it this way in John 15:5.

"I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing."



By receiving Jesus, God has so completely changed us, that we have become one with Him, and He with us, that His Spirit and our Spirit have become one, right inside of us, in the very core of our being.
Jesus is the v, the life-giving part of the fruit bearing tree.
His life flows into us, the b, so He is in us.
And we are attached (grafted into) the vine, demonstrating that as the branches we are in Him.
Now Christ is living in us, and we can live and abide in Him.
Speaking of His resurrection day, the Lord Jesus also said:
"In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you." John 14:20
Colossians 1:27 "God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:"
Where is Christ according to these verses?

Now let's take a look at this $\mbox{{\bf mystery}}$ a little further.

What does the Apostle Paul call this truth?

2. YOU IN CHRIST

Did you notice the two perspectives in some of these verses, US LIVING IN HIM as well as He being in us?

Amazing, but in the entire New Testament, the truth about "CHRIST IN YOU," is mentioned less than **10 times**.

In contrast, the same New Testament records over **180 times** that the believer is "IN CHRIST." That's almost 20 to 1 times.



So we need to learn about "IN". What does "IN" somebody mean?

When you were born of your parents, what was your family name?

Now	let's	look	at an	other	verse:

II Cor. 5:21	He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so
	that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

There is that powerful phrase again "IN HIM." What does this verse tell us that we are?
Can you put this verse into your own words?

Here is another powerful verse on this truth of righteousness:

Romans 5:17b: those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Lord Jesus.

What does this verse tell us that righteousness is ? a	
You don't have to earn it, you only have to receive it !! Have you consciously received this gift from your Father?	

In Biblical times, the children of Israel and even believers in the New Testament church had the strange idea that righteousness came by good works, and a holy life.

But that is self-righteousness, not God's righteousness.

It may seem right to us, to do good things and think that by doing so we gain God's approval.

But it is surprising to discover that God's hates that way of thinking. God has a better plan, not an achieving program, but a receiving program. He wants to **give us His righteousness.**

Here's another verse telling us how God makes us righteous.

Romans 5:19 "For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous."

How were people born into this world made sinners?
By the disobedience of one man
How are born again Christians made righteous saints

3. AN INTRODUCTION TO GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS

For today, we just want to see Who or What we are IN CHRIST! Let's look at some of those 180 verses about being **IN CHRIST**. I Cor. 1:30 " But by His (the Father's) doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption." Here we see that the ______put us _____. What does this mean to you? By putting us in Christ, what four things were given to us IN CHRIST? Let's focus on the second one in the verse. What is it?_____ Righteous means to be in right standing with God, so that we are totally acceptable to Him. Now let's think about this. Our old Adam life is gone, and we have new life given to us as a gift. It is Christ's life, but with whom does a gift belong once accepted? ______. So now look at your new life. Is it Christ's life? Is it righteous? Then how righteous are you? _____ As righteous as who? Can we really say that?

Romans 5:12 "Just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—"

(That's what makes all men, women, boys and girls sinners.)

Romans 5:18 "So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men."

Doesn't sound so good!



IN ADAM we are dead, we are sinners and we are condemned. But that is just where God's miracle of salvation is so marvellous!

God not only forgives our sins by the death of the Lord Jesus,

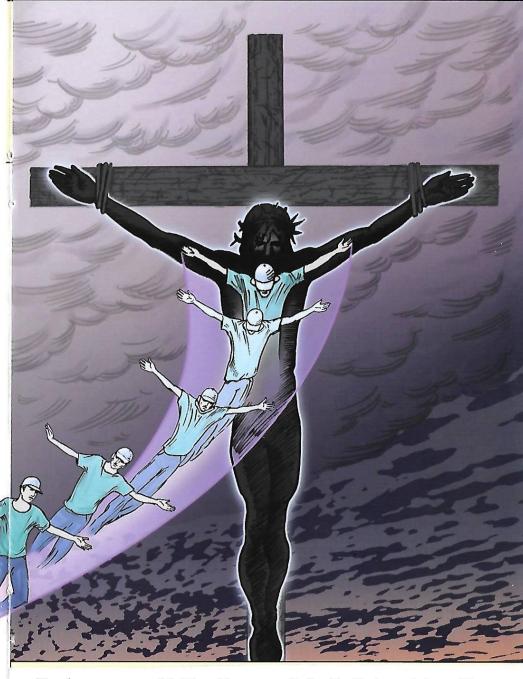
He takes us out of Adam and puts us into Christ!

That's so amazing we have to search out the scriptures to see how God did this.

The middle two pages of this booklet will give you a diagram of how God put us IN CHRIST, but we will talk about that more fully in another lesson.

When you by faith receive the life of the Lord Jesus, God transfers you out of the lineage of your earthly family in Adam and places you by your new birth into the eternal life of Christ, the life that is forever in the past and forever in the future. God gives to you the full benefits of what happened on the cross, your death with Christ, taking you out of Adam, burying your old Adam life in the grave, and resurrecting you in newness of life with Christ. Then He seats you in heavenly places IN CHRIST, a relationship that will never end.

This is the core truth of being born again by the Spirit of God, not of the will of man but by the will and power of God, a death, a burial, and a resurrection, all now yours by faith.



You become one with Him. You are united with Christ and that will never change. Your old Adam life is gone, you have received Christ's life as a gift, and it is now yours. He is your very life, and will never leave you.