

IN CHRIST, YOU ARE NATURALLY SUPERNATURAL!

Love-Impact Training

Lesson 1

The moment you came to faith in Christ, you received a whole new identity, you became a whole new creation!

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

NKJV

The Gospel gives us a life that is no longer stuck in the orbit of moral law with the inevitable failure of keeping it through our own willpower. We Christians are now free to explore a new world of endless _____ and holiness. The Gospel declares that we are new creatures! There are two Greek words used in the New Testament for the word new. The first is neos, which means "new with respect to time." Neos new, is new of the same kind and of the same quality. The second Greek word, which I will expound on in this section, is _____. Kainos is one of my absolute favorite words in the New Testament. The definition of kainos is "new as to form or quality, of a different nature from what is contrasted as old." A great explanation of kainos is that it is new in kind and in contrast to what previously existed, so that it takes its place. If something is kainos, it is superior to what it succeeds. Without a doubt, one of my most cherished verses in Scripture where kainos is used is in Second Corinthians 5:17. We are not the same distorted and corrupted humans we once were, subject to the chains of sin and death. We are new. We are kainos new! We are new in quality and in kind, and superior to what we were in our fallen state.

- *The Happy Gospel: Effortless Union With a Happy God, by Benjamin Dunn*

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

NIV

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away.

Behold, the fresh and new has come!

AMP

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 What this means is that those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun!

NLT

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 When anyone is joined to Christ, he is a new being; the old is gone, the new has come.

TEV

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!

TLB

This is such an amazing verse the Holy Spirit gives us! To understand in detail what exactly happened when we chose to be in Christ, let's read Romans 6. Get ready for some tasty new creation _____!

This explains in detail how we became new creations, as well as what exactly passed away. You see, the moment you came to faith in Christ, you came into _____ with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection... rearranging everything! Giving you a whole new identity! Read below...

Romans 6:3-11

3 Are you ignorant of the fact that *all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?*

Have you ever been baptized in water? Baptism is a powerful declaration of what happens to you the moment you come to _____. You see, when you came to faith in Christ, you came into union with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Water baptism is an outward symbol of what happens that moment. When a believer goes underwater, he or she is identifying with Christ's death. And when a believer comes up from the water, he or she is identifying with Christ's _____. Even if you haven't been baptized physically, you became a new creation the moment you came in Christ. If you haven't yet, it's time to get baptized, declaring what Christ is done in your life! Let's keep reading for more detail of what happened...

4 We were buried therefore with Him by the baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious [power] of the Father, so we too might [habitually] live and behave in newness of life.

5 For if we have become one with Him by sharing a death like His, we shall also be [one with Him in sharing] His resurrection [by a new life lived for God].

6 We know that our old (unrenewed) self was nailed to the cross with Him in order that [our] body [which is the instrument] of sin might be made ineffective and inactive for evil, that we might no longer be the slaves of sin.

This is exciting news!! In one sense, we've all been _____, and we have a whole new nature because of our union with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, when it says "old things have passed away", verse 6 in Romans defines exactly what happened. Because of Adam and Eve's sin, humans received and were born with a sinful nature. We were born into this world _____ from God. God told Adam and Eve that if they disobeyed Him in the Garden, they would die spiritually. When they disobeyed God, that's exactly what happened, and that spiritual death passes on to generation after generation. That's why Jesus said in John 3 "you must be born again." He was simply saying "you must have faith in Me, so you'll be born again, and receive a whole new nature becoming a whole new creation." Here's the really good news: when you came to faith in Christ, that old sinful nature died at the Cross, and you receive a new nature, becoming a new creation..._____! Keep reading and you'll see the Apostle Paul amplified this truth...

7 For when a man dies, he is freed (loosed, delivered) from [the power of] sin [among men].

8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

9 Because we know that Christ (the Anointed one), being once raised from the dead, will

never die again; death no longer has power over Him.

10 For by the death He died, He died to sin [ending His relation to it] once for all; and the life that He lives, He is living to God [in unbroken fellowship with Him].

11 Even so consider yourselves also dead to sin and your relation to it broken, but alive to God [living in unbroken fellowship with Him] in Christ Jesus.

So this is the good news of the gospel: the moment we came to faith in Christ, we received a whole new nature, with unbroken fellowship with God.

When you became a new creation, you received a new nature that looks just like Jesus as a son or daughter of God. In Galatians 2:20, Paul seals the deal of what we've been talking about...

Galatians 2:20

20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

When Christ died at the Cross, you died with Him. When Christ was buried, you were buried with Him. And when Christ rose from the dead, you rose from the dead with Him... a whole new creation! When Jesus died, He _____! Not in the sense of making us deities, but in the sense of making us sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father, who worship and love Him with all of our hearts. This new nature that we have in Christ, is _____, naturally holy, naturally loving, and naturally like the nature of Jesus. When Jesus died, He multiplied! Jesus explained this in an amazing way...

John 12:23-24

23 But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. 24 Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain."

Jesus was comparing His death and resurrection to a grain of wheat being planted in the ground. Just as the grain of wheat has to "die" by being planted in the ground, Jesus would also be laid in the ground for three days. But as the single grain of wheat finds _____ through this "death" and multiplies itself many times over, so Jesus would rise again and bring many others with Him from death unto life.
-Andrew Wommack, Andrew Wommack Bible Commentary

As new creations, we are invited to a _____ that looks just like Jesus while He was on the earth. Not in the sense of what He did in our place at the Cross, but in the sense of what He did as a Son of God, demonstrating the Kingdom everywhere He went. You and I are called to walk in the miraculous, signs, wonders, miracles, massive amounts of love, joy, and peace. When people _____ us, they should encounter Jesus through us! Here's what Jesus said...

John 14:12

12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father."

Mark 16:15-18

15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be

*condemned.17 And these signs will follow those who believe: **In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.**"*

Are you convinced yet? As believers, we are called to live a naturally supernatural life that looks and acts just like Jesus while He was on the earth. I encourage you, take _____ of this reality! Take ownership of your identity as a son or daughter of God. Let's stretch our faith and believe to see the same miracles that Jesus did while He was on the earth, and more, through our own hands!

CLOSING PRAYER

Jesus, I believe Your Word, that when You died on the Cross, I died with You. And when You were buried, I was buried with You. And that old sinful nature, stayed buried. And when You rose from the dead, I rose from the dead with You, a whole new creation. Open my eyes to the reality of who I am now, through Your death, burial, and resurrection. Open my eyes to the naturally supernatural lifestyle I am invited to live as God's child. Thank You Jesus for all You accomplished for me at the Cross! Amen.

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

When you became a whole new creature in Christ, what passed away?

What does it mean when the manual says that you came into union with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection?

What kind of Christ-like character do you want to see manifest through your life?

What kind of miracles do you want to see Christ accomplish through your hands?