



MESSAGE: CHARLIE MENG

MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE

DATE: MAY 23, 2021

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE IN CHRIST?

Review of 2 Timothy 1:

1. A shared life with God equips us for a shared life with one another. (1-5)
2. By God's power, through the Holy Spirit and his gifts, we courageously share the gospel – even in the face of hostility. (6-14)
3. Living out the faith and love in Christ: Onesiphorus' example. (15-18)

We are in Christ.

Rom. 6:5 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.

1. God's eternal plan included our union with Christ.

2 Tim. 1:9 He gave us grace in Christ Jesus before the ages began.

2. Our union with Christ results in a new self-identity.

- a. We have died and been raised in Christ.

Rom. 6:4 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.

Col. 2:12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

- b. We have new life in Christ

1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. *12* Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

- c. Growth in our new life flows from our union in Christ.

Col. 2:6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, *7* rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

All our Actions can be done in Christ:

"(Paul) reminds the Corinthians, "in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Cor. 15:58). It is "in the Lord" that children are to obey their parents (Eph. 6:1), wives are to submit to their husbands (Col. 3:18), and all believers are to be strong (Eph. 6:10), be encouraged (Phil. 2:1), rejoice (Phil. 3:1; 4:4), agree (Phil. 4:2), stand firm (Phil. 4:1; 1 Thess. 3:8), live a godly life (2 Tim. 3:12) and have good behavior (1 Peter 3:16). "In the Lord" they work hard (Rom. 16:12), are made confident (Phil. 1:14) and are approved (Rom. 16:10)."

-Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology

d. Our union in Christ results in union with one another.

Rom. 12:4 *For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.*

3. Our union and identity in Christ produces eternal hope.

1Pet. 5:10 *And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.*

Discussion & Reflection Questions

1. Identify one key truth you have gleaned from the first chapter of 2 Timothy. How has this truth influenced the way you live?
2. In what ways do you see your life thriving "in Christ"? In what areas is growth needed? Identify one area to focus on this coming week. Own your identity
3. Take time to focus on all that God has done to unite you with his Son. And what freedoms are in store every day. Each morning take time to think about this. Then let the gratitude flow!

SONGS

"Marvelous Light" - Charlie Hall

"Graves Into Gardens" - Brandon Lake, Chris Brown, Steven Furtick, and Tiffany Hammer

"Regin Above It All" - Ethan Hulse, Hannah McClure, Jess Cates, and Paul McClure

"Blessed Assurance" - Jeremy Riddle

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK:	\$30,374.51
WEEKLY NEED:	\$35,272.00

YTD GIVING:	\$618,307.00
YTD GENERAL NEED:	\$705,440.00