

Celebrating the Birth of Jesus
Children of God in a World Without Hope

Basic Ingredients of Our “New Life” in Christ

- **Forgiveness Covers the Consequences of Sin**
Gen. 2:15-17; 3
- **We become “Children of God”**
John 1:12; Mat. 6:9-13; 18:1-6
- **God’s Spirit is Lives in and Through us**
John 14:15-18, 26; 20:19-20

We Live a “New Life in Christ”!

How does “New Life” Change How We Live?

1. **We, like Jesus, must guard ourselves from trusting people and the things they say and do.**

*Now when He was in Jerusalem... many believed in His name...
But Jesus, on His part, was not entrusting Himself to them,
because He knew all people, and because He did not need
anyone to testify about mankind, for He Himself knew what was in
mankind.” **John 2:23-25***

Two important “truths” define the human condition

- “Evil” in the human heart. Matthew 15:12-20
- Influence of Satan in human thought. Matthew 16:21-23

2. **We seek to live a “Christ-like” life so that we will draw people to Jesus for the transformation they need.**

- Embrace the attitudes taught by Jesus. Matthew 5:1-11
- Pray for God’s kingdom to come. Matthew 6:9-13

*“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness,
and all these things will be provided to you.” Matthew 6:33*

3. **We prioritize achievable goals established by Jesus for those who embrace Him as Savior and Lord.**
(John 17:13-24)

17:13	Our Joy in life is in Christ alone
17:14-16	Because Jesus guides us we will have trouble in life
17:17	Our encouragement is in what Jesus teaches us
17:18-19	Jesus sends us to bear witness of Him
17:20-24	Our witness to the world is our “unity in Christ”

*“that they may be one, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me,
that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know
that You sent Me, and You loved them, just as You loved Me.”*
John 17:22-23

Unity in Action

II Corinthians 7:1-7 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let’s cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. ²Make room for us in your hearts; ... you are in our hearts, to die together and to live together. ⁴My confidence in you is great; my boasting in your behalf is great. I am filled with comfort; I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction. ⁵For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were afflicted on every side: conflicts on the outside, fears inside. ⁶But God, who comforts the discouraged,”

- **Paul references the goal of building unity in Christ.**
- **Paul references the need to open our hearts.**
- **Paul references comfort and joy in Christian fellowship in the midst of affliction.**
- **Paul references God’s comfort in times of discouragement.**