

"The Word as Personal Fullness"
John 1:14-16

In Christ, God has supplied all we need for our salvation and therefore for living life as He intended humans to live. He is, literally, all our needs met. This is no abstract or conceptual idea, but an actual and personal supply of His life, all sufficient for this world and the one to come. His command invitation is to live personally and presently from His full and perfect supply.

To do so, we begin by accepting the reality of an "imperfect" struggle to live out of our perfect salvation. (When we do, we might just realize the "imperfect struggle" is meant for us - we will see it as "perfect" also. See James 1:2-4; Rom 8:28-29, etal!) The foundation that allows us to do so is the acknowledgement of our internal, eternal union with Christ. There is now, and never will be any distance, any gaps, any "space" between God and us (I Co 6:17; Col 1:27; Ga 2:20; Heb 13:5). We simply abide in Him and this reality, learning the habit of loving attentiveness to Christ in all things. Abiding in Christ is making all things relative to Him - His personal presence, His power, His promises. This is how we learn to think eternally in order to live presently. We see all things designed by God to carry and press us into His fullness so we may draw our supply from Him. Abiding is the "place" of receptivity - where we say, "I believe and receive you." (We call that faith.)

Once we abide in Him, the most natural thing to do is to abandon to Him for the purpose of being an expression of His life. If abiding is the pace of receptivity, abandoning is the "place" of responsivity - where we say, "I will obey you." (We call that obedience.) Much of our fatigue, our anxiety, our mediocrity, even our boredom is due to the failure to establish the habit of immediate obedience, the failure to follow through in the abandonment to Christ. The life not abandoned will find no rest for its soul.

Furthermore, we also must accept the reality of an "imperfect" witness to a Perfect Savior. Why does God allow "imperfect" witnesses? To start with, there are no other kind on earth! There is only one inerrant, infallible Witness (Jo 1:18). None of us is the "total truth" of God. None of us is "the light". (We are mostly "dim wicks" that He will not extinguish - Is 42:3.) Secondly, the "imperfect" nature of our witness serves to keep us gracious and merciful. We see how dependent we are and remember how sad and deadly it is to look for life anywhere but in Christ! In a world that is the theater of God's glory, each of us is a unique, created expression of Christ's Uncreated life - we are made to "shine" Him. A witness is never an end unto himself. We are witnesses of His mission - to bring a full supply of life to all who will believe and receive Him.



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One In Christ, Inc.

This financial gift is:

- A response to God's leading
- A monthly contribution
- A yearly contribution

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Praise Reports & Prayer Requests



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GREETINGS

Thanks so much for your cards and prayers for Ella and Joshua. Joshua's procedure made no real difference in his symptoms, so we are on to the next level of options. Ella is still in the sling (6 weeks), into rehab (12 weeks), and it's a bit too soon to tell about her results. We'll keep you informed.

Many of you know by now that Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday. The weather, the food, the down time, the family and friends - all serve to make it unique. The special time of giving thanks makes it a "holy-day". It is a wonderful reminder that every day is a holy day for the children of God who learn to "give thanks for everything" (Eph 5:20). Why not consider making every day a Thanksgiving day?

Make your plans soon for our Florida Retreat. This year's dates are Feb 18-20. Deadlines for accommodations and meals will be around January 20th. If you can't get to Florida in February, how about Atlanta in April (1-3)? Join Steve McVey and Gene Edwards and me for a first time event (details next month).

One In Christ, Inc.
13820 NW 172nd Avenue
Alachua, Florida 32615

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

7,14,28	CCF
9	Alachua Study
12-13	CCF College Retreat
18-21	Louisville, KY (502-241-1550)

DECEMBER

7	Ocala Study
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JANUARY

28-30	Leesburg, FL (352-267-2939)
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Florida Retreat

"Perfecting The Perfect"

February 18-20, 2011

Alachua, Florida

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