

Practical Applications of Being “in Christ”

Since I am in Christ.....

- My holiness is not dependent on my efforts; it is dependent on the finished work of Christ and the Holy Spirit in me. Therefore:
 - I can stop “trying” to get holiness and accept that I am already holy. (Deuteronomy 7:6)
 - My achievements do not make me “more holy,” neither do my failures make me “less holy.” (Philippians 3:9)
- I can receive God’s forgiveness and thus forgive myself for my past failures. (Colossians 2:13-14)
- God loves me unconditionally because Christ died for me. His love is not tied to my performance or obedience. (1 John 4:10)
- I am acceptable and have worth to God based on the finished work of Christ—not by my efforts. His acceptance of me is a gift through faith. Therefore...
 - I don’t have to focus on my strengths to gain acceptance. I can accept myself with my weaknesses because God created me and accepts me completely with my weaknesses. (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)
 - I no longer have to hide my mistakes and failures because God knows about them, has forgiven them, and loves me despite my past. (Psalm 103:10-13)
 - I have no reason for pride because I didn’t do anything to earn my worth and acceptance. (1 Cor. 1:26-29)
 - My identity is not determined by my education, vocation, wealth, power, or position. I am a child of God, a saint, and a chosen one. (1 Peter 2:9-10)
 - I am secure because my acceptance is based on something that will not change with time. I don’t need to fear the loss of intelligence, abilities, looks, finances, family, friends, social status, reputation, position, etc. (Psalm 62:6-7)

Which of these truths and scriptures are the most meaningful to you?

Rev. Jeffrey Pokone, has been a Biblical counselor and Center Director with the Indiana Biblical Counseling Center since 1998. He counsels in the following areas; marriage, trauma and abuse, sexual addictions, spiritual conflicts, and relationships. Jeff has been married for over 30 years to his wife Suzette and has five adult children.