

WHO I AM IN CHRIST | PART 2

NOTES

DEAD BUT ALIVE & I BELONG TO GOD

OPENING REFLECTIONS

Dead but alive: Like a seed that dies to produce new life

Belonging to God: Being treasured by someone who purchased you at great cost

Scripture Foundation: Romans 6:1-14

Key Points from the Passage:

We are dead to sin – sin no longer has mastery over us

We've been baptized into Christ's death – fully immersed in it

We are united with Christ in both death and resurrection

Death brings relief from sin's control over our lives

THREE MAJOR SHIFTS:

Thought Shift: Consider ourselves dead to sin, alive to God in Christ

Behavior Shift: Offer ourselves to God, not to sin

Paradigm Shift: Not under law, but under grace

UNDERSTANDING “DEAD BUT ALIVE”

What It Means:

- Our old nature/past no longer controls us
- Those things have been nailed to the cross
- We still make mistakes, but we're not in a sinful state
- Our brokenness no longer takes control of our life

Important Clarification:

- NOT “learning to die to myself” – the death is already complete
- We're not dying – we ARE dead (past tense)
- Now we're alive in Christ and being sanctified

The Process:

- Sanctification is like an upward trending stock – overall trajectory is up
- Will have dips and plateaus, but the trend is upward
- We're unlearning sinful patterns, not dying to ourselves
- Our spiritual nature now guides us, not our old sinful nature

Supporting Scriptures

Colossians 3:1-4

“You died and your life is now hidden with Christ in God”

Set hearts and minds on things above

Galatians 2:19-21

“I have been crucified with Christ”

“I no longer live, but Christ lives in me”

Live by faith in the Son of God

Ephesians 2:4-7

Made alive with Christ even when dead in sin

Raised up with Christ and seated with him in heavenly realms

Belonging to God

Romans 14:7-8

“Whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord”

What This Means:

Purchased with Christ's blood
Made free from the law's punishment
Christ carried our load and was punished instead of us
We receive the Holy Spirit by trusting in Christ

Different Aspects of Belonging:

Redemptive/Purchase: Bought from slavery to sin into freedom
Familial: Adopted into God's family
Inclusive: All believers brought together under one name
Purposeful: Our whole life now belongs to him

PERSONAL APPLICATION**Being Treasured:**

God looks past our brokenness to see our future and destiny
He paid everything for each individual
We must stop and reflect on this to maintain gratitude
Important to keep this at the forefront amid competing voices

Living It Out:

Cannot do this alone - not a solo journey
Must be united with Christ and in fellowship with others
"Iron sharpens iron" - we need encouragement from fellow believers
Belong alongside your brothers and sisters

Key Takeaways

Death is complete - we're not dying, we ARE dead to sin
New life - we're alive in Christ with a spiritual nature
Sanctification - upward journey with God's help
Treasured - purchased at great cost and deeply valued
Community - we belong together, not in isolation

Enemy's Strategy

Tries to remind us of our past failures
Looks for cracks in the armor
Attempts to distract us from God's Word
Says we're not who God says we are

Our Response

Remember our past is gone - not bound by it
Stay focused on God's Word as our guiding source
Live in fellowship with other believers
Keep our eyes focused on Christ

1. Being dead to some and then alive to something is a challenging concept in our human thinking, but God's plans are 'mysterious'. How does being dead to sin and then alive to Christ position you and your relationship with Christ?

2. Take a moment to reflect to your pre-Christ life and now where you are, what has changed? Can you identify a shift, and recall what was once alive is now dead?

*Write down your story when you get home. Write down and then review where you once were without Him and where you are today with Him.

3. How is it that now we are alive to Christ, we continue to prune away the dead things? How does it shape your day-to-day priorities in following Him.

4. What does it mean to you personally that you Belong to God? How does this Truth help you to understand yourself, your purpose and your eternity?

5. If we look at the truths of this week, that we are dead to sin and alive to Christ, and the fact that we belong to Him, should this cause us to stop and pause, look at where our priorities are, our focus and pursuit? Then ask what is getting in the way of all out fellowship of Christ?

Challenge: As a group (but individually) write down what stands in the way of complete fellowship of Christ. This can be sin, or it could be things that aren't but are taking your focus and priority away from Him. Be honest, then fold the paper up (this is between you and God), and burn it! This is a symbolic releasing of those things. Pray about them and give them over, die to them and let them go.