

Reborn Connected

Human beings are born treasure hunters - always on the hunt for what we think will bring great value, confer genuine meaning, or provide lasting security to our lives. When we ask the question of the Psalmist in Psalm 4:6; "Who can show us the goods?", Jesus Christ says, "I can! I am the Treasure you seek. In Me are all the goods you search for. Only I can connect you to such things through the gift of Myself." (Col 2:2-3)

And we replied, "I believe You! I receive You and all that comes with You!" And the full Treasure became ours (II Cor 4:7). The truth of the Gospel is not, "This is what God wants from you - now go do it!" It is, "This is what God wants for you - now receive it!" In our receptivity of His free gift, we are connected to a full and perfect Savior... rendering us fully and perfectly saved! (Jo 1:16; Eph 1:3; Col 2:9,10; II Pet 1:3,4) When John says we are "born of God", he indicates the origin and supply of our newly created lives are in Christ. It is a grace work from "above" that changes everything about us "below". A new source, family, identity, purpose, journey... a new creation. And in the kingdom of God, we become what we receive. We received a Justifier, a Sanctifier, a Glorifier, a Forgiver, a Righteous One, a Holy One, making us justified, sanctified, glorified, forgiven, righteous, holy (just to name a few).

In our connection with the Crucified, Risen Christ we experience the severing power of the Cross and the enabling power of the Resurrection. The Word of the Cross is, "Let there be death... death to the Adam-life, the sinful life, the condemned life, the Satan-dominated life. Let there be death to the 'dis-connected' you!" The Word of the Resurrection is, "Let there be life... God-life, righteous life, accepted life, overcoming life. Let there be a reborn, fully connected, God-indwelted you!" Dis-connected from God "me" has died. Forever connected to God in "me" lives.

All of me is affected. My "spirit" is now indwelt by Christ (Col 1:27), my "soul" may be tuned and turned to "the Word implanted which is able to save our souls" (Ja 1:21), my "body" can be "presented to God as a living and holy sacrifice" (Ro 12:1-2). This is the normal Christian life! To be re-born connected to the Saving Life of Christ graces us with a new response "ability". We are no longer slaves to sin (Ro 6:5-11). We are free to work out what God has worked into us (Phil 2:12-13). We have found our "treasure". We are enriched and empowered completely - spirit, soul, and body - our Indwelling Treasure will bring it all to pass (I Thess 5:23,24).

✂ _____

- **Tax-deductible contributions** -

may be made to *One In Christ, Inc.*

13820 NW 172nd Ave, Alachua, FL 32615

- **Messages and sermons by Steve** -

www.stevepettitmessages.com

- **Conferences and events led by Steve** -

can be arranged by calling Steve at 352-672-1275

- **To receive this newsletter electronically** -

email your request to OICnewsletter@gmail.com

Praise Reports & Prayer Requests



Please inform us of any changes to your address



Greetings

A number of you have asked about recordings from our Florida Retreat. The sessions are being currently edited and made ready to be posted on YouTube or the First Baptist Church Alachua website. Check on either in about 2-3 weeks to see if they are available.

Although every day is "Resurrection Day" for those who are in Christ, we hope and pray that the season called "Easter" is a joyous and wonder-full time for you and your eternal brothers and sisters in the community you call "home"!

Because of the resurrection we are not fearfully clinging to this world as our home, we are looking and leaning into our forever home. Because of the resurrection, we are not past our peak, we are headed to the peak. Because of the resurrection, we are not near the end, we are closer than ever to a new beginning. Because of the resurrection, we do not cease living at death, we go right on living through death. Because of the resurrection, death is not closing in on us, unimaginable Life is closing in on us. Because of our unbreakable connection to the Resurrection and the Life, we are not waiting to die to be able to live, we are able to live now out of our God-indwelt, holy, righteous, accepted, deathless, overcoming lives.

He is risen—He is rise, indeed!



CALENDAR



APRIL

2,9,16,30	FBCA
11	Alachua Study
13	Pastor's Conf., Starke, FL (904-263-2127)
21-23	Binghamton, NY (607-341-6062)
25	Ocala Study
26	Orlando, FL (863-414-1076)

MAY

25	Summit Baptist, High Springs, FL (352-318-2463)
----	--



Praise and Prayer



An indivisible connection to the Crucified,
Risen Savior



An anticipatory joy in the moment for all
that is yet to come.



For our local churches to accept & walk in
the liberty of the Resurrection & the Life



For our own enriched & empowered
expression of our personal connection with God.