♦SERMON NOTES **♦**

Sunday, August 2, 2009

"LIVING LIFE IN CHRIST"

(Colossians 2:6-15)

What is a Christian? Is it simply being born into a certain family or attending the right kind of church or believing the right doctrines? Billy Graham said, "Being a Christian is more than just an instantaneous conversion – it is a daily process whereby you grow to be more and more like Christ." How do we live that kind of life?

1. Living in Christ –	(v. 6).
2. Living in Christ –	(v. 7).
3. Living in Christ –	(v. 8).
4. Living in Christ –	(v. 9-12).
5. Living in Christ –	(v. 11-13).
6. Living in Christ –	(v. 14-15).

"To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps" (1 Peter 2:21, NIV).

"He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit" (Jeremiah 17:8, NIV).

"The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you" (Romans 8:11, NLT).

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"Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God. Don't just say to each other, 'We're safe, for we are descendants of Abraham.' That means nothing, for I tell you, God can create children of Abraham from these very stones" (Luke 3:8, NIV).

"Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27, NIV).

1. Living in Christ – Don't stop (v. 6).

"Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did" (1 John 2:6, NIV).

"To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps" (1 Peter 2:21, NIV).

2. Living in Christ – <u>Stay connected</u> (v. 7).

"Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root" (Matthew 13:5-6, NIV).

"He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit" (Jeremiah 17:8, NIV).

"For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God" (Hebrews 11:10, NIV).

3. Living in Christ – Avoid the spiritual junk (v. 8).

4. Living in Christ – Trust the real thing (v. 9-12).

"Who do people say the Son of Man is?" (Matthew 16:13, NIV).

"Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me" (Matthew 11:4-6, NIV).

"These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ" (Colossians 2:17, NIV).

5. Living in Christ – experience His power (v. 11-13).

"Through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead" (Colossians 2:12, NIV).

"The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you" (Romans 8:11, NLT).

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20, NIV).

"Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God" (Ephesians 3:17-19, NIV).

6. Living in Christ – <u>Victory in Jesus</u> (v. 14-15).

"victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:57, NIV).

"Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

...But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:35-39, NASB).