

Studies in Christianity A New Creature #2

S#1.

Living The New Things

S#2.

Text : **John 15: 1-17 ; Galatians 5: 22-25**

S#3.

A. We are starting from the beginning to review how one approaches God via Jesus.

1. We first learned how one becomes a “new creature” in Christ Jesus.

II Cor. 5: 17 – Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature;
the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

S#4.

- a. One must develop faith that the risen Jesus is the Christ the son of God.
 - b. One’s faith must develop to the point that it causes him to commit his life to God.
 - c. His faith must be such a strong part of his thinking and life that he will share it.
 - d. He will then obey the faith that controls his life and influences his conversation.
2. We then looked at what it means to be a “new creature.”

Jesus called the state of being a new creature as being “born again.”

John 3: 3 – Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you,
unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

S#5.

- a. We observed that being born again is a pre-requisite to one’s salvation.
- b. Being born again involves being baptized in water, but it is not just baptism.
- c. One who is born again must have totally changed his life.
- d. The Apostle Paul called this transformation being “created in Christ Jesus.”

S#6.

Eph. 2: 10 – For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

S#7.

B. With this lesson we will observe some affects the new birth has on one’s life.

1. The Christian has a new standard.
2. The Christian has a new purpose.
3. The Christian has a new incentive.
4. The Christian has a new hope.
5. The Christian has a new reward.
6. The Christian has a new confidence.
7. The Christian has new duties.
8. The Christian has new obligations.
9. The Christian has a new lifestyle.
10. The Christian has a new destination.

I. The Christian has a new STANDARD.**S#8.****A. Christians no longer live to please themselves.****S#9.**

1. The Christian must put his own personal desires on the back burner.

Matt. 16:24 – Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.
25 For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

2. The Christian must abide (live) in the commands of Jesus.

John 5: 10 – If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; **S#10.**
 just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

B. Christians follow the example of Jesus instead of the current culture.

1. **I John 2: 6** – By this we know that we are in Him: **6** the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.
2. **I Pet. 2: 21** – For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also **S#11.**
 suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps.
- * 3. **Acts 10: 38** – *You know of* Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and *how* He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

II. The Christian has a new PURPOSE.**S#12.****A. God creates Christians to do things for Him.****S#13.**

Eph. 2: 10 – For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

B. Christians are created to do things that bring glory to God.

Matt. 5: 14-16 – You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be **S#14.**
 hidden; **15** nor does *anyone* light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.
16 Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

1. Christians are to do things that are observed.
2. When these good works are observed, God should be glorified, NOT the doer.

C. Christians are responsible to spread the good news of salvation by grace. S#15.

1. **I Pet. 2: 9** – But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

2. **Matt. 28: 18** – And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has **S#16.** been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **19** Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

III. The Christian has a new INCENTIVE.

S#17.

A. Jesus will return and take faithful followers home to Heaven with Him.

I Thes. 4: 13 – But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those s **S#18.** who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. **14** For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. **15** For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. **16** For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. **17** Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. **18** Therefore comfort one ...

B. When Jesus takes us home to be with Him, we will be just like Him.

S#19.

I John 3: 2 – Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

IV. The Christian has a new HOPE.

S#20.

A. Biblical “hope” does not include doubt or uncertainty.

S#21.

1. Hope merely specifies that it will come in the future not that it is uncertain.
2. Strong defines “elpis” translated “hope” as: (to anticipate, usually with pleasure) : expectation (abstractly or concretely) or confidence: —faith, hope.
3. **II Pet. 1: 4** – For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of *the* divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

B. We anticipate our resurrection because Jesus was resurrected.

I Pet. 1: 3 – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who **S#22.** according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to obtain an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are protected by the power of God

V. The Christian has a new REWARD.

S#23.

S#24.

A. Sometimes the Christian life feels like a sacrifice, but we can't out give God.

Matt. 19: 29 – And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or farms for My name's sake, will receive many times as much, and will inherit eternal life.

B. Heaven is the greatest of all rewards Christians are promised.

S#25.

1. **Rev. 2: 10** – Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

2. **II Tim. 4: 7** – I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; **8** in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

S#26.

VI. The Christian has a new CONFIDENCE.

S#27.

A. Jesus came to give His followers the foundation of their confidence.

S#28.

John 10: 10 – The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. (cf .. **Lk 19:10**)

B. Those who are in Christ are secure as long as they have faith in Him.

I John 5: 11 – And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. **12** He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. **13** These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

S#29.

VII. The Christian has new DUTIES.

S#30.

A. God created all men with one duty in common :

S#31.

Eccl. 12: 13 – The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep His commandments for this is the whole duty of man. (ESV)

B. Christians have a duty to serve others.

Mark 10: 43 – But it is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; **44** and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all.

C. **John 13: 34** – A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another,

S#32.

even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. **35** By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

VIII. The Christian has new OBLIGATIONS.

S#33.

- A. The Christian is obliged to put the cause of Christ first in his life.

S#34.

Matt. 6: 33 – But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

- B. Christians are responsible to be advocates for truth.

I Pet. 3: 14 – But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, **S#35.** *you are blessed.* And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled, **15** but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence; **16** and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame.

- C. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love and take care of one another.

Rom. 12: 10 – Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference **S#36.** to one another in honor; **11** not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; **12** rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, **13** contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

IX. The Christian has a new LIFESTYLE.

S#37.

- A. Sinful people are brought into Christ, but required to change.

I Cor. 6: 9 – Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? **S#38.** Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, **10** nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. **11** Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

- B. When one becomes a new creature, is born again, he totally surrenders himself to Christ so his mind & heart are changed.

Rom. 12: 1 – Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present **S#39.** your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. **2** And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

- C. When the Christian's heart and mind are changed, his lifestyle will change.

Phil. 4: 8 – Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever **S#40.**
is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if
there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

X. The Christian has a new DESTINATION.

S#41.

A. The Christian knows he has a home in Heaven waiting for him.

S#42.

1. **John 14: 2** – In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so,
I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. **3** If I go and
prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself,
that where I am, there you may be also.
2. **I Pet. 1: 3** – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who **S#43.**
according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living
hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to *obtain*
an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away,
reserved in heaven for you, **5** who are protected by the power of God
through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

B. When the Christian leaves this world he anticipates a reunion with God.

II Cor. 5: 6 – Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while **S#44.**
we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord — **7** for we walk
by faith, not by sight — **8** we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather
to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord. **9** Therefore
we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing
to Him.

CONCLUSION :

A. Becoming a Christian one becomes a totally new creature, as one born again.

S#45.

B. That transition affects his life in innumerable way, among them are a new:

1. The Christian has a new STANDARD. **6.** The Christian has a new CONFIDENCE.
2. The Christian has a new PURPOSE. **7.** The Christian has a new DUTIES.
3. The Christian has a new INCENTIVE. **8.** The Christian has a new OBLIGATION.
4. The Christian has a new HOPE. **9.** The Christian has a new LIFESTYLE.
5. The Christian has a new REWARD. **10.** The Christian has a new DESTINATION.

C. Is your life that of a new creature; that of one who has been born again ? **S#46.**

INVITATION : **Jesus has done His part. .. You must accept.**

S# S#47. ... Communion slide

Lesson Text :

John 15: 1-17

I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. **2** Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. **3** You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. **5** I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. **6** If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. **7** If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. **9** Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. **10** If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. **11** These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

12 This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. **14** You are My friends if you do what I command you. **15** No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you. **16** You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you. **17** This I command you, that you love one another.

Galatians 5: 22-25

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. **24** Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.