

# Benefits of Being in Christ

## BENEFITS OF BEING IN CHRIST

### SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

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Based on the sermon by Pastor Mirek Hufton

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### 1. SERMON RECAP

In this message, I walked us through the incredible reality of what it means to be "in Christ" -- that through Jesus' finished work on the cross, we have been delivered from the dominion of darkness and transferred into God's kingdom. I emphasized that when Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Father, He was declaring the job completely done -- our sins paid for, our right standing with God secured. The challenge I laid before us is to take these legal truths and make them a living, breathing reality on the inside of us through believing, speaking, and acting on God's Word.

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### 2. KEY SCRIPTURE

#### **Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)**

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

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### 3. ICE BREAKER

Start here to get everyone talking before diving deeper.

**Think about a time you received something valuable that you didn't fully appreciate or use right away -- a gift, a skill, an opportunity. What was it, and how long did it take before you really made the most of it?**

(Give everyone a chance to share briefly. This sets up the idea of possessing what's already legally ours in Christ.)

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### 4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### **Question 1 -- Getting into the Word**

Colossians 1:13-14 says we have been delivered from the power of darkness and conveyed into the kingdom

of God's Son. In my sermon, I pointed out that both of those words are past tense -- it's already happened.

How does it change your perspective on daily struggles to know that your transfer out of darkness is already complete, not something you're still working toward?

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### **Question 2 -- Understanding the Finished Work**

Hebrews 10:12 tells us that Jesus, after offering one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God. I talked about how significant that sitting down is -- you sit down when the job is finished.

What does it mean to you personally that Jesus is seated -- that nothing more needs to be added to what He did? Is that easy or hard for you to fully receive? Why?

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### **Question 3 -- Our Position in Christ**

Ephesians 2:6 says God "raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." So not only is Jesus seated, but in God's mind, we are seated with Him.

What difference should it make in how we face sickness, fear, financial pressure, or family struggles if we truly believe we are seated in a place of authority with Christ? Where do you find that hardest to live out?

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### **Question 4 -- Making It Personal**

I shared that one of the biggest problems I see is Christians who know the truth in their heads but haven't gotten it down into their hearts. I talked about speaking the Word out loud, rehearsing it, washing your mind with it -- especially in hard moments like when I was on that mission trip in Papua New Guinea and had to build myself up before preaching.

Have you ever experienced a moment where declaring or confessing God's Word out loud made a real difference for you? What happened? If not, what holds you back from trying it?

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### **Question 5 -- Identity and Boldness**

I talked about how knowing who you are in Christ produces a holy boldness -- whether in a sales situation, walking into a senator's office with the gospel, or just carrying yourself differently at work or at home. The righteous are as bold as a lion (Proverbs 28:1).

In what area of your life do you most need a greater sense of your identity in Christ right now -- at work, in relationships, in your prayer life, or somewhere else? What would boldness actually look like there?

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### **Question 6 -- Moving from Legal to Vital**

I used this phrase in my message: "It's one thing for something to be legally yours, but another thing for it to be vitally yours." Vital means life -- it's not just on paper, it's alive in you.

What do you think it takes to move a scriptural truth from something you mentally agree with to something that actually changes how you live day to day? What has helped you make that shift before?

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## 5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

**This week, choose ONE truth from this sermon and make it personal.**

Pick one of these declarations -- or write your own from the scriptures we studied -- and speak it out loud at least once every morning and every evening for the next seven days:

- "I have been delivered from the power of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of God's Son."
- "I have been crucified with Christ. My old man is dead. Christ lives in me."
- "I am made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. No shame, no guilt, no condemnation."
- "Jesus sat down because the work is finished. I am seated with Him in heavenly places."

Write it on a sticky note, set a phone reminder, or put it somewhere you'll see it daily. At your next group meeting, share what you noticed -- did anything shift in your thinking, your emotions, or your actions?

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## 6. PRAYER POINTS

Close your time together by praying over these specific areas:

1. Pray for revelation, not just information -- Ask God to take the truths from this message and make them alive on the inside of each group member, so that what is legally true becomes vitally real in how they live, speak, and carry themselves this week.
  2. Pray for freedom from shame, guilt, and condemnation -- I encounter people regularly who struggle to believe they are truly right with God. Pray by name for anyone in the group (or in your lives) who is carrying a heavy conscience, that they would receive the full reality of Jesus' finished work on their behalf.
  3. Pray for boldness -- Ask the Holy Spirit to stir up a holy confidence in each person to step into the situations where they've been shrinking back -- whether sharing their faith, believing for healing, standing on God's Word through a long faith battle, or simply walking taller in who they are in Christ.
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## 7. MEMORY VERSE

**Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)**

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

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Leader's Note: Don't feel pressure to get through every question. Follow the conversation where the Holy

Spirit leads. The goal isn't to finish the guide -- it's for every person to leave with something living and real on the inside of them.