

# Unity With Christ

## Jesus Leads and Empowers Us from Within



■ by Lynne B. Scherschel, MS, LMFT



### Truth not Feelings

Sometimes, in the midst of difficult circumstances, we feel as if God is far away and that He has forgotten us. Well, He is far away – yet closer than our breath! It is important to base our lives on TRUTH, not Feeling. Our only reliable foundation is the TRUTH of scripture, not our feelings. The latter change constantly, while the truth of scripture is unchanging; God never changes (Malachi 3:6, James 2:17).

So, how can God be both far away and so close at the same time? God made everything and is everywhere, which includes being with us at all times. Actually, it is even better than that! He promises that when we accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, Jesus actually takes up residence within

us. In baptism we die with Christ and are resurrected with Him (Romans 6:4-6). That can only happen if He is one with us, in us. Miracle of miracles! Then we are told that we are seated with Him in heavenly places, which means we are with Him where He is seated at the right hand of the Father (Ephesians 1:19-20, 2:6-7).

### Nothing Can Separate Us From Christ

I have known all the scriptures about unity with Christ for a long time, but I recently heard an example given that took the knowledge from my head to my heart and produced a major paradigm shift in me. Suppose you have a glass of water. It is just water. Then suppose you put several tea bags into the water and let it sit for a while. We all know that the water will become saturated, united with the tea, and it would be very difficult to separate the tea from the water. As well, the tea bags will become saturated with the water. Assuming that the glass is clear and clean, the tea would be quite visible, however, if the glass was dirty or cloudy on the outside, the tea would be hidden. We would be hard pressed to remove the tea from the water. Romans 8:35-39 tells us that nothing can separate us from God's love.

This example isn't perfect, but God supernaturally used it to impact and change me. The next morning, as I was walking, I remembered how many times I've heard people talk about "when Jesus walked the earth." Suddenly, I KNEW that He walks the earth now – in me! The next day I heard the song, "Just Give Me Jesus," and I thought, "I HAVE Jesus!" I don't need more of Jesus. That might be like saying, "I am a little pregnant!" What I need is to be fully convinced of His presence in me and to allow Him to carry out His will for my life. I need to be a "clean glass," so that the light and love of

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Christ can shine through me. I need to be aware that His life vibrates in every cell of my body, giving it His divine life and power – the same power that raised Him from death (Romans 8:11). I need Him to work within me to get ME out of His way, so He can erupt, explode from within me for His Kingdom purposes.

### Unity with Christ's Power and Perspective

In addition to knowing that Jesus lives within us, it is vitally important to know that we are seated with Him in heavenly places. This is a sign and a wonder in itself! Where is Jesus seated? Ephesians 1:20 tells us that He is seated at the right hand of the Father. This suggests to me that, as we are seated next to Christ, we have the perspective of the Father and the Son. In every situation we can have their perspective, which is one of perfect wisdom and VICTORY! They see the big picture and

know what to do in every circumstance. They have the power to carry out their wisdom, so theirs is a perspective of complete victory. Having that perspective changes how we look at everything and how we respond to life's blessings and challenges. It also changes the way we see and treat other people.

### Unity with Christ—A Mindset

In conclusion, being convinced that the living Christ has inserted Himself within us as well as experiencing our presence with Him at the right hand of the Father affects the way we think, our identity, the way we pray (from a position of victory, not begging), the way we act in our sphere of influence, and our entire mindset. When we encounter life from this perspective, we no longer need to be a victim of our circumstances, our feelings, or others' opinions of us. We are united with Christ; and we know who and Whose we are, we know where we are going, and we know that Jesus leads and empowers us from within. ■

*For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Romans 8:38-39*



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