

What Does It Mean To Be a Christian?

SB – What does it mean to you to be a Christian?

1. In basic terms, Christian refers to a person or a group of people adhering to the teachings of Jesus Christ.
2. They are in general associated with Christianity which is the largest and most widespread religion in the world.
3. Though it has been hundreds of years since the Bible was written, it still remains to be Christianity's fundamental guide in living life under Jesus' principles and teachings.
4. Because of these reasons, we can't help but ask, How do you become a Christian?

How A Believer Receives Christ

1. The access to Christianity or to becoming a Christian is unbelievably simple.
2. No initiation, no payment, no merit, and no proving of worth for the title of being a "Christian". What it simply requires is a person:
 - a. Hearing the Gospel proclaimed about Jesus - Romans 10:17
 - i. ¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.
 - b. Admitting to being a sinner and lost – Rom. - 3:23, 6:23
 - i. ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
 - c. Believe that Jesus is the only way to salvation John 3:16, - Acts 16:31, Heb. 11:6
 - i. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.
 - d. Confess that Jesus is the Son of the living God and He is your savior - 1 Tim. 6:12, 1 Jn. 4:15, Matt. 10:32-33
 - i. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.
 - e. Repent of your sins – 180 degrees from sin and former life Acts 2:38, 17:30, 2 Pet. 3:9
 - i. ³⁰ Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent,
 - f. Be baptized – immersed - for the forgiveness of sin and receiving the Holy Spirit Matt. 28:18-20, Mk 16:16, Acts 2:38, 16:33, Col. 2:12, 1 Pet. 3:21
 - i. ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
 - g. Live an obedient life following Jesus. - 2 Pet. 1:5-12, Matt. 24:13, Rev. 2:10,26, 3:10,21
 - i. ¹³ But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.

Relationship with Jesus as Savior and Lord

Our Savior

3. Trust in God and stop trusting ourselves. - Matt. 10:8-15 (Where Jesus sent them out to trust in Him and not in what they brought with them)

4. An honest confession that we are unable to save ourselves from the wrath of God based on our works. - Matt. 19:16-22 (Story of Rich Young Ruler)
5. There is nothing we can do, even good deeds to convince God to accept us.
6. Jesus' finished work on the cross is the only acceptable atonement – means to make my sin right before and removed - for our sins.
7. Unless we accept God's free gift of salvation, we cannot receive Christ. - Rom. 6:22
 - i. ²² But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

Our Lord

8. When we start to trust God, we acknowledge Him not just as our Savior but as our Lord as well.
9. Receiving Christ means accepting His Lordship in our lives. - Rom. 10:9
 - i. ⁹ that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;
10. It represents one who is in control of Christians; the one who rules Christians.
11. Trusting God is about giving Him all that we have, allowing Him to rule over us.
12. This lordship is not limited to a specific part of our lives, which means we cannot choose which part of our lives we want God lead. - Act 2:36
 - i. ³⁶ Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.”
13. Jesus is sovereign (supreme power or authority) in every area of our lives.
14. And our response to this lordship of Jesus should always be submission. - 1 Cor. 8:6
 - i. ⁶ yet for us there is *but* one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him.
15. We are his servant and will be obedient to His will and commands
16. Trusting him means believing that whatever he does will always be in our best interest.
17. What does it mean to be a Christian? It means full acceptance of who Jesus is – Lord and Savior.

ATTRIBUTES of CHRIST

A Christian has a Personal Relationship with Christ

1. Being a Christian is not about religion but a relationship with Christ. John 14:6
 - i. ¹⁶ I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;
2. Belonging in the family of Christ is the significance of a personal relationship with God.
3. Attending church services, activities, and fellowship is all part of being a Christian. Heb. 10:25
 - i. ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.
 - ii. We grow in an environment where believers support each other and hold each other accountable. Prob. 27:17, Col. 3:16

1. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
- iii. Christianity is primarily about our relationship with Jesus. John 14:15
 1. ¹⁵ “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.
- iv. If we want to grow in our faith, we are to seek God first above anything, even before the dynamic active of Christian church.
- v. Being part of a church is of utmost importance, but our relationship with God is strengthened when it becomes personal. John 6:40
 1. ⁴⁰ For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.”
4. It matters that we invest time to nurture our relationship with Christ through personal prayer, devotion, and reading the Bible.
5. Unlike what some people think, being a Christian isn’t about following a series of regulations. Act 15:10, Rom. 3:20 Rom 6:14
 - i. Some think that once you become a Christian, you have to adhere to religious rules to continue being one.
 - ii. Rom. 3:20, ²⁰ because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin.
6. Christianity is completely misunderstood when it is not defined based on our relationship with Jesus.
7. This relationship is in friendship and savior with Christ.
 - i. Jesus the savior, laid down His life for us as a friend (John 15:13).
 - ii. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.
 - iii. Our new relationship with Jesus means friendship with Him since we were God’s enemies when we haven’t received Jesus as Savior. (James 4:4).
 - iv. ⁴ You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.
8. What does it mean to be a Christian?
 - i. A Christian has a personal connection with God which is strengthened through individual effort of spending time with Him. John 16:33
 - ii. ³³ These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”
 - iii. Furthermore, a relationship with Him keeps a lifestyle abiding by God’s commandments and growing our relationship with Christ (John 15:14).
 - iv. ¹⁴ You are My friends if you do what I command you.
9. Indeed, the relationship with Jesus is the basis of Christianity.

A Christian Is a Disciple

1. What does the word disciple mean?

2. The word disciple means student.
 - a. To be a disciple of Christ means to be a student of Jesus.
 - b. The term disciple means to be a student of and assisting in the spreading of the doctrine of what it is relating to – in this case Christ Act 6:7, 14:21
 - i. ⁷ The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.
3. The Bible calls Jesus followers disciple and Christians
4. The Bible mentioned “Christian” only three times in the New Testament (Acts 11:26; Acts 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16).
 - i. Acts 11:26, ²⁶ and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.
 - ii. Acts 26:28, ²⁸ Agrippa *replied* to Paul, “In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian.”
 - iii. 1 Pet. 4:16, ¹⁶ but if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.
- b. People who follow Jesus are called disciples before the term Christian was used.
- c. The actual definition of Christian is - of, pertaining to, believing in, or belonging to the religion based on the teachings of Jesus Christ – OR Being Christ like
- d. In Antioch, the disciples were first called Christians in AD 47 when Barnabas took Paul there. Act 11:26 (See Above)
- e. From then on, people identified the disciples of Jesus as Christians.
- f. The name Christian became the standard adjective to refer to those who are Christ-like.
5. What does it mean to be a Christian then?
 - a. We are to leave our old way of life and follow Jesus and strive to be like Him.
 - b. We are to be His disciples because we are life long students of Christ.

A Christian Imitates Christ

1. To follow Jesus indicates living a life in the light of His Word. John 1:5, 3:19, 8:12, Eph. 5:8
2. Christians emulate the character of Jesus.
 - i. ⁸ for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light
- a. This is what it means to be “Christ-like”.
- b. The early disciples of Jesus followed Him in a literal manner.
- c. They left everything- their jobs, their families, perhaps their greatest desires in life, they drop it all and follow Jesus. Matt. 16:24, Luke 12:33
 - i. 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.
- d. Wherever Jesus went, they went and they listened to Him.
- e. From the moment they decided to follow Christ, their lives became devoted to God.
- b. The same is true for us, it is all about Christ now.
 - a. Not our desires.
 - b. Not our own ways. 1 Cor. 9:16

- i. ¹⁶For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for I am under compulsion; for woe is me if I do not preach the gospel.
- c. It is living up to the teachings of Jesus.
- d. We follow the examples He and other believers modeled in the Scripture.
- e. We adhere to His teachings by living a life reflecting Christian values and principles of Christ. Rom. 12:2
 - i. ²And 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. The apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 11:1 advised the church of Corinth as to how we can imitate God even when we can't see Him. Paul said, "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."
 - i. We are to imitate those people who imitate Christ. They are our spiritual leaders.
- d. What does it mean to be a Christian in the context of Christlikeness? 2 Cor. 5:17, 1 John 2:6
 - i. ⁶the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.
 - ii. Christians follow Jesus through Scripture.
 - iii. They abide by His teachings and live a life in accordance with His will.

Marks Of A True Christian

1. The greatest duty of a Christian is to live a life mirroring Jesus. 2 Cor. 3:18
 - i. ¹⁸But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.
 - ii. This is the best testimony of Christ's believer.
 - iii. Jesus called us the salt and light of the world (Matthew 5:13-14).
 - iv. ¹³"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty *again*? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. ¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden;
 - v. Light can't be hidden in the darkness for it will shine persistently.
 - vi. Our lives should have the same light Jesus is talking about. John 8:12, Matt. 5:16
 - vii. ¹²Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."
 - viii. ¹⁶Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.
 - ix. Your light should shine no matter where it is.
2. There should be something different in the life of a follower of Christ that sets us distinct from this world. Eph. 2:10
 - i. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.
 - ii. A true Christian possesses the good traits taught by Jesus and shown in His life.
 - iii. Being a Christian is not just a mere statement.

- iv. Jesus' disciples declare their Christianity in their everyday lives.
 - v. He despises the Sadducees and the Pharisees because of their hypocritical acts.
3. What does it mean to be a Christian? Phil. 3:13-14
 - i. ¹³ Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
 4. A true Christian has the marks of Christlikeness in His life.

Indicators of a Person Moving Toward Christ likeness

Living by God's Word

1. If we desire to live like Christ, we need to seek God's word. John 15:10
 - i. 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.
2. This is because the only way to know the life of Christ is by reading His truth.
3. Everything that we need to know as a Christian can be found in the Bible.
4. It contains all the answers to our questions both in faith and in life.
5. A real Christian can't live without the Word of God. Col. 3:16
 1. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
6. In Matthew 4:4, Jesus said that it wasn't by bread alone that man can live.
 - i. ⁴ But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'"
7. Our spirit needs the Word of God so we can truly live.
8. Without God's truth, we are dead in our sins. John 17:17
 - i. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.
9. Reading the Bible is our spirit's way of breathing. 2 Tim. 3:16-17
 - i. ⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.
 - ii. To read God's word is one thing, but to apply it is another thing.
10. We do not just listen as He speaks.
11. Our heart is inspired to obey what He is telling us through His word.
12. Abiding by His Word is a Christian's only way of living. 2 John 1:9 warns us,
 - i. ⁹ Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.
 - ii. "Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teachings of Christ, does not have God."

Putting on a New Self

1. SB – What does it mean to put on a new self?

2. Since we have been redeemed from an old life of sin and Jesus raised us from death to give us new life, we are to put on a new self.
3. Putting on a new self is about seeking the things above, not earthly things (Colossians 3:1-17).
4. Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. ³ For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.
⁵ Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. ⁶ For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, ⁷ and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices, ¹⁰ and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him— ¹¹ *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.
5. ¹² So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. ¹⁴ Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity. ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.
 - i. The earthly things are things such as sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, covetousness, and idolatry (Colossians 3:5).
 - ii. These things offend God. Other things also displease God and should be put to death such as anger, wrath, malice, slander, obscene talks, and lies (Colossians 3:8-9).
6. What then are the things God wants us to put on as His chosen ones?
 - i. We are to dress with compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. forgiveness, love, and peace (Colossians 3:12-15).
7. What does it mean to be a Christian as bearers of God's truth?
 - i. A true Christian puts off the old self and puts on a new self.
 - ii. Our old self lives by corrupt practices. On the other hand, our new self is living by the knowledge of the image of God (Colossians 3:10).
8. God's image is flawless and righteous.
9. We are being renewed day by day into the full completion of our hope of a completely transformed life in Christ once reaching heaven.
10. We have walked the wrong path all our lives until the Lord redirected us to the right track.
11. With our deadly sins, we are walking away from Him.
12. But He showed us the way to Him.

13. Through this, we forget what is behind us, and with no looking back we step forward to God's transforming grace.

Walking in Love

1. What does walking in love mean?
2. Among all the indicators of being a Christian enumerated in Colossians 3, the Scripture gave emphasis on putting love above all else for it binds together everything in perfect harmony.
 - a. Love summarizes the attributes of God. Col. 3:14
 - b. Likewise, the best characteristic of a Christian should be love. 1 Cor. 13:1-8
3. If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have *the gift of* prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ And if I give all my possessions to feed *the poor*, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.
⁴ Love is patient, love is kind *and* is not jealous; love does not brag *and* is not arrogant, ⁵ does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong *suffered*, ⁶ does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
⁸ Love never fails; but if *there are gifts of* prophecy, they will be done away; if *there are* tongues, they will cease; if *there is* knowledge, it will be done away.
 - a. The Lord commanded His disciple to love one another so everyone will know that they are His disciples (John 13:35).
 - i. ³⁵ By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
 - b. This is God's new command to His followers, that we love one another as He loved us.
 - c. Love is the ultimate mark of being a Christian.
4. Jesus also condensed the commandments of the Old Testament into two greatest commandments which are both acts of love (Matthew 22:36-40; Mark 12:28-34).
 - i. ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And He said to him, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' ³⁸ This is the great and foremost commandment. ³⁹ The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."
5. In Ephesians 5:1-2, the Bible tells us to be imitators of God as beloved children.
 - i. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; ² and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.
6. Because we experienced the selfless, sacrificial love of Christ, we can also walk in love.
7. To walk in love means to walk as children of light.
8. In addition, those who walk in the light walk with wisdom.
9. We strive to live a life showing His love to others so they will know love beyond the standards of this world.
 - a. Our faith and even our works are pointless without love (1 Corinthians 13:1-3).

- i. (Repeat from above) If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have *the gift of* prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ And if I give all my possessions to feed *the poor*, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.
 - b. Apostle John, whose expertise is on the subject of love, defines walking in love with walking in the truth. (2 John 1:4-6)
 - i. ⁴ I was very glad to find *some* of your children walking in truth, just as we have received commandment *to do* from the Father. ⁵ Now I ask you, lady, not as though *I were* writing to you a new commandment, but the one which we have had from the beginning, that we love one another. ⁶ And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it.
 - c. He defined love as walking according to the commandments of Jesus.
10. If you want to know more about this love we should walk in love, 1 Corinthians 13 gives us the illustrious descriptions of love.

Keeping in Step with the Spirit

1. The Scripture answers the question, what does it mean to be a Christian with a bold statement in Romans 8:9, “Anyone who does not have the Spirit of God does not belong to Him.”
 - a. This is perhaps the only indicator of a true Christian which God clearly sees is His Spirit, something men cannot see.
 - b. Only the works of the Spirit in the life of a Christian are visible to men.
2. SB - What does keeping in step with spirit mean?
3. There are two ways to live this life (Romans 8:5-8).
 - a. ⁵ For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, ⁷ because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
 - b. First, to live according to the flesh. This way of living sets minds on things of the flesh.
 - c. Second, to live according to the Spirit.
4. This way of living sets minds on things of the spirit.
 - a. The mind keeping in step with the flesh dies, for it does not submit to God’s law (Romans 8:6-7 - above).
 - b. However, the mind keeping in step with the Spirit produces in us real life and peace.
 - c. Walking in the Spirit is the only precise way to put out the desires of the flesh (Galatians 5:16).
 - d. ¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.
5. The flesh and the Spirit are in conflict with each other.
 - a. What the flesh desires, the Spirit despises.
 - b. Conversely, what the Spirit wants, the flesh hates.
6. This is why it’s tough or impossible to live in both flesh and Spirit.

7. Nonetheless, the Bible reminds us that those who belong to Christ or become Christians do not anymore dwell with the passion and desires of the flesh (Galatians 5:22-24).
 - a. ²² 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.
 - b. We live by the Spirit and we keep in step by the Spirit.
8. The Bible gave us marks of a true Christian through the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23 to affirm that we are keeping in step with the spirit.

Being Transformed By Christ

1. Living a Christian life is never easy. Rom. 12:2
 - a. 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.
 - b. The list of the description on what does it mean to be a Christian has probably overwhelmed you by just reading it.
 - c. Reflecting it in our own lives can be frustrating for we knew that we simply cannot adhere to all of Jesus' teachings for it's too much for us. 2 Cor. 5:17
 - d. ¹⁷ Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he* is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.
2. The bad news is following Christ is in reality, not designed for our convenience.
 - a. The Scripture says, the road that leads to life is narrow and small (Matthew 7:13-14).
 - b. ¹³ "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. ¹⁴ For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.
 - c. Only a few people find it.
 - d. The easy way of living which most of us want leads to destruction.
 - e. But, the good news is, God's grace isn't narrow.
3. It is sufficient at all times and made perfect in weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9).
 - a. ⁹ And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.
4. His grace never ends for a Christian
5. It transforms us and changes us every single day.
6. We are like clay being molded by the great Potter.
 - a. The clay does not choose how it should be molded. Rom 9:21
 - b. ²¹ Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for common use?
 - c. It is the Potter who does the work. Isaiah 64:8
 - d. But now, O LORD, You are our Father,
We are the clay, and You our potter;
And all of us are the work of Your hand.
7. Therefore, we need to stop looking to ourselves and start surrendering to God.
8. Christlikeness is a lifetime process of the Holy Spirit transformation.

9. He who began good works in us will bring it to completion (Philippians 1:6).
 - a. ⁶ *For I am* confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.
10. Seek God's truth persistently and let Him mold you into His likeness.