

MEDITATION



Charlie Wallace
Pastor
David Baptist Church

Don't doubt who you are to Christ

When I was in college I was disciplined through a campus ministry where I was expected to memorize certain key bible verses. One of the verses the ministry leaders suggested that I memorized was 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come" (ESV).

I can still picture in my mind's eye the campus min-

istry leader reciting this verse out loud. Why is this bible verse so important to remember? One could point to several reasons but I'd like to highlight the phrase, "in Christ." If anyone is in Christ, he or she is a new creation. What does it mean to be "in Christ?" This phrase is used over 40 times in the New Testament so it is obviously important. So what does it mean and what are the implications for the believer?

Think about what takes place when you meet someone for the first time. What is one of the first questions you ask them and that they ask you? If you're like me, you may ask the person where he or she is from or where they live. But eventually an identity question will surface. What is an identity question? Here a few examples: "Where do you work?

What do you do for a living? How do you spend your days?" In America, much of one's identity is wrapped up in one's profession, or lack thereof.

I'm convinced that most Americans spend much of their life trying to carve out their identity. Most of us face an identity crisis at some point(s) in our lives. We ask questions such as, "Who am I? What am I supposed to be doing? What now?" But for the Christian, our identity is very simple: we are in Christ. The Apostle Paul states in Galatians that all Christians, no matter their ethnicity, gender, or social status are "one in Christ Jesus."

This is wonderful news for the believer because who we are is no longer bound up in the memories of our past failures or successes. Neither is our identity contained by our living conditions, any medical

problems that we may suffer, or any addiction that we can't kick. Neither is our identity carved out by any family problems or family history that we may face. For the person in Christ, he or she is identified as being in Christ. When God looks at you he does not see you or your past sins or failures, but he sees his Son, Jesus. The Reformer Martin Luther called this "the great exchange." Jesus receives our sin and in exchange we receive his righteousness. What can be better than that?

Because of this truth Paul wrote to the Philippians that even if he were to die in prison he would gain something. And that something was victory in Christ. Think about this truth the next time you doubt who you are and remember that you are much more than you think.

Dixon Presb. Homecoming Day May 25

Rev. Eade Anderson, retired minister of Montreat, NC and former supply pastor at Dixon and First Presbyterian Churches, will be guest speaker at 11 a.m. Sunday at Dixon Presbyterian Church.

The Homecoming Day event at Dixon will begin with Sunday School at 10 a.m. Special music, under the direction of Nancy Hughes, will be presented at the 11 a.m. service.

Lunch will be served at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall across the street in the former Dixon School building.

A native of Etowah, NC, Anderson, 87, is a graduate of Davidson College and Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. While in seminary he served internships in both First Presbyterian and Dixon Presbyterian churches during the summers of 1948-49. Following ordination in 1950, he served successively as a pastor of churches in Gastonia, NC; Bainbridge, GA; Greenwood, MS; and Montgomery, AL.

Beginning in 1971 he was for 20 years chaplain in pastoral care programs in Veterans Administration Hospitals, first in Marion, Indiana; then for 13 years as the director of pastoral care in the VA hospitals in Little Rock and North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Since retirement in 1990, he has served as Interim Pastor in 15 Presbyterian churches in the Southeast. Eade and Jane Anderson have seven children, 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. They live in their retirement home in Montreat, N. C.

"We invite the public to join us in this special celebration," said Pastor Randy Patterson.

Fellowship & Faith

Church Service Directory

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Advent Lutheran Church,
NALC Member
KM Senior Center
909 E. Kings St.

Ardent Life Church
420 Branch Street
704-739-7700

Arise Church
Kings Mountain YMCA
211 Cleveland Ave.

Bethlehem Baptist Church
1017 Bethlehem Road
704-739-7487

Boyce Memorial ARP Church
Edgemont Drive
704-739-4917

Burning Bush House of God
310 Long Branch Rd (KM)
704-739-2877

Calvary Way Holiness Church
1017 Second Street
Pastor Clifton Morgan

Carson Memorial Baptist Church
262 Sparrow Springs Road
704-739-2247

Central United Methodist Church
113 S. Piedmont Avenue
704-739-2471

Cherokee St. Baptist Church
421 S. Cherokee Street
704-739-7697

Chestnut Ridge Baptist Church
618 Chestnut Ridge Road
704-739-4015

Christian Freedom Southern Baptist Church
246 Range Road
704-739-4152

Christ The King Catholic Church
714 Stone Street
704-487-7697

Church at Kings Mountain
108 E. Mountain St.
(KM Women's Club Bldg.)
704-739-1323

Cornerstone Church Of God
202 Margrace Road
704-739-3773

Cornerstone Independent Baptist
107 Range Road
704-737-0477

Crowders Mountain Baptist
125 Mayberry Lane
704-739-0310

David Baptist Church
2300 David Baptist Church Road
704-739-4555

Dixon Presbyterian Church
602 Dixon School Road
dixonpresbyterian.com

East Gold Street Wesleyan Church
701 E. Gold Street
704-739-3215

East Kings Mountain Church of God
Hwy 161, Bessemer City/KM Hwy.
704-739-7367

Eastside Baptist Church
308 York Road
704-739-8055

Ebenezer Baptist Church
1621 County Line Road
704-739-8331

El Bethel United Methodist Church
122 El-bethel Road
704-739-9174

Emmanuel Independent Baptist Church
602 Canterbury Road
704-739-9939

Faith Ablaze Church
1128 S. York Road
704-739-8496

Faith Baptist Church
1009 Linwood Road
704-739-8396

Faith Holiness Church
Hwy. 161/Bessemer City Rd.
704-739-1997

Family Worship Center
1818 Shelby Road
704-739-7206

First Baptist Church
605 W. King Street
704-739-3651

First Church of the Nazarene
121 Countryside Road
704-734-1143

First Presbyterian Church
111 E. King Street
704-739-8072

First Wesleyan Church
505 N. Piedmont Avenue
704-739-4266

Galilee United Methodist
117 Galilee Church Road
704-739-7011

Gospel Assembly Church
202 S. Railroad Avenue
704-739-5351

Good Hope Presbyterian Church
105 N. Cansler Street
704-739-1062

Grace Fellowship
144 West Mountain Street
704-481-8888

Grace United Methodist Church
830 Church Street
704-739-6000

Harvest Baptist Church
144 Ware Road
704-734-0714

Kings Mountain Baptist Church
101 W. Mountain Street
704-739-2516

Life of Worship Ministries
405 S. Cherokee St.
704-777-2927



Featured Church of the Week: First Presbyterian Church

Notice: In order to accommodate the number of churches in our communities, we will print two alternating lists of churches each week. If you don't see the church you're looking for, be sure to check next week.

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