

Christmas Services
SAT, DEC 17TH
@ 6PM
SUN, DEC 18TH
@ 9AM & 11AM

Christmas Eve Services SAT, DEC 24TH @ 4PM & 5:30PM Christmas Day Service SUN, DEC 25TH @ 10AM

3000 STRAYER ROAD • MAUMEE, OHIO 43537 / ATTHECHURCH.TV

Talk It Over December 25, 2022

"Neither for these alone do I pray [it is not for their sake only that I make this request], but also for all those who will ever come to believe in (trust in, cling to, rely on) Me through their word and teaching, that they all may be one, [just] as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be one in Us, so that the world may believe and be convinced that You have sent Me. I have given to them the glory and honor which You have given Me, that they may be one [even] as We are one: I in them and You in Me, in order that they may become one and perfectly united, that the world may know and [definitely] recognize that You sent Me and that You have loved them [even] as You have loved Me." - John 17:20-23 (AMPC)

To grasp and to understand the true meaning of Christmas, we must begin with John 1:1-2 (TPT) – "In the beginning the Living Expression was already there. And the Living Expression was with God, yet fully God. They were together—face-to-face, in the very beginning."

Jesus was one with His Father and came to Earth to make it possible for you and I to have that very same relationship.

Christmas, the birth of Jesus, is God's message to us that He desires Oneness with Him in the deepest, most intimate relationship.

His ultimate purpose for Jesus' birth and our birth is that we become united with Him in holy love forever.

When the Father looks at you, He sees you in Christ – perfect, wholehearted, and complete – as one with Him.

When you are "in Christ," all that is true of Him changes what is true of you.

Paul uses the phrase "in Christ" more than 100 times in the New Testament. Ten times Paul uses this phrase in the first 14 verses of Ephesians 1.

- 1 We are called the faithful "in Christ."
- 3 God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing "in Christ."
- 4 God chose us "in Christ."
- 6 God has freely given us grace "in Christ."
- 7 We have redemption, the forgiveness of sins "in Christ."
- 9 God made known the mystery of His will "in Christ."
- 11 We were chosen "in Christ."
- 12 We put our hope "in Christ."
- 13 We were included "in Christ."
- 13 We were marked "in Christ" with the seal of the Holy Spirit.

Our "status," our state of being while on Earth, is literally "in Christ."

When He was on the Cross, we were "in Christ."

When He rose from the dead, we were "in Christ."

When He sat down at His Father's right hand, we are "in Christ."

What is true of Christ is true of you.

When we abide in Him, and He abides in us, what is true of Him changes what is true of us.

Additional Scriptures: Ephesians 1:4 (TPT); Ephesians 5:31-32 (TPT); Galatians 6:10 (AMPC); Ephesians 2:19 (AMPC); John 14:23 (AMPC)

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