



## **What it Means to be “In Christ”**

Philippians 2:12-18

Today, we will I look at the scripture text to see what it means to be IN CHRIST. What is the definition of “in?” If I dive off a high dive, I will be completely engulfed or immersed *in* water.

If you are a child of God, you have the potential to be totally engulfed *in* Him. You have a choice! You can either stay on the side of the pool and not get in or you can jump in and a part of the water. Let’s look at our text and see what God has for us.

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling... Philippians 2:12

**Therefore-** This word simply refers to what is before. So, what is before this? Paul is telling the believers at Philippi, “Listen: because you are in Christ, or therefore, now figure out what is going on in your life.” Why is that thought so important?

They are told to start and think and learn from the things in their lives and they will grow.

**Fear and Trembling-** simply means to give it meaning. Devote time to it.

... for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Philippians 2:13

God - through the power of the Holy Spirit - works in us. Why?

Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things,

and by your will they existed and were created.

Revelation 4:11

As the creator he created us for his good pleasure. We are pleasing when we the will of him.

Verses 14 and 15 talk about our attitudes in the battle. No grumbling or complaining. Just do the work.

... holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Philippians 2:16

**Hold Fast-** This is the key to life in Christ.

Holding Fast. Do not let the Word of God go.

Study it. Memorize it. Meditate on it!

I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Psalm 119:11

Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Philippians 2:17

Paul says that he would rather be poured out as a drink offering so that he can rejoice with them. us.

Likewise, you also should be glad and rejoice with me. Philippians 2:18

**Encouragement-** Paul ends this section with encouragement: be glad and rejoice with me.

So, what is my definition of being IN CHRIST?  
In Christ means you are:

**Deeply Loved, Totally Forgiven, Accepted and Complete IN HIM!** That is what In Christ means.

This is why we should do everything we can for him because he did everything for us. We should do no less.