

To Live is Christ

21 For to me, to live is Christ.

Philippians 1:21 NKJV

FCI Faith Group Program

October 15, 2023

1 PETER 2 (PART 5) – I AM WHO GOD SAYS I AM

- **1 Peter 2:11** – As believers, we are only sojourners or travelers here on earth. There are 3 prescriptions of Peter after telling us who we are in Christ:
 1. We will talk about being “aliens”
 2. Abstaining from the flesh
 3. Submitting to authorities
- Declare: “I am who God says I am.”
- The Word of God is truth and life. All other things are opinions, facts that can change and may not have eternal value.
- *Kaya dito na tayo sa Word of God, sa Word of life.*
- In the beginning, there’s the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. We are not to partake of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil but only of the tree of life which is Jesus Himself.
- Evil will sound “so good.” Even the serpent said they will be like God. But they are already made in the image of God! There is a very fine difference, *kaya pwedeng madaya ka*. It sounds good but it is evil because it is not the Word of life.
- Even today, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil is still available to all *at nadadaya pa rin ang marami*. Do not agree with those teachings.
- The Word of God will give you grace, it will build you up and not tear you down.
- Life will give you life, it will give you grace.
- The tree of the knowledge of good and evil is not life to you. It’s what the world says, what man says, and it is not inspired by God.
- Praise God, secure *na tayo!* God keeps us. We already chose the tree of life. The truth is we already have life and its fullness when we received Jesus. (**1 John 5:12**)
- Receive from Jesus, the tree of life, receive His words.
- **1 John 5:19** – we are of God.
- Jesus and His word is life.
- Ex. The world says: You lack a lot of things. The Word of God says: You are complete in Christ.
- Keep in mind what God made you to be.
- Declare: “I am who God says I am.”
- **1. We are travelers in this world** – We are foreigners belonging to the Kingdom of God. We are “aliens” here for we have a heavenly home. (**Philippians 3:20-21**)
- This is not our permanent residence. We only have a mission here – we are kings and priests. We are anointed by God so that people will see our good works and glorify Him.
- And soon, Jesus our Lord will meet us in the air with glorified bodies and have our homecoming. Be excited! Be prepared! It’s homecoming time!
- **2. Abstain from the flesh**
- **1 Peter 2:11-17** – As travelers or *habang nasa biyahe tayo* in this world, let us be focused on Jesus and what He has made us to be.
- *Kontra na ang fleshly lust sa soul mo na cleansed na by the Word and the Spirit. Mag-abstain ka na kasi di na bagay sa yo yan kasi malinis na tayo.* A believer does not enjoy sin anymore.
- Verse 12 – people see your good works and in the day of visitation, *maaalala nila yan* and they will glorify God.

- Verses 13-14 – The two responsibilities of authorities: 1) Punish evildoers; 2) Praise who do good.
- We are not of this world. We have a new description. Do not agree with the world's description of you. Religious or *pa-humble* or *pa-makumbaba na* description tulad ng “I am a sinner, I am a broken person, I am weak, I am a fool, I am not clean, I am unholy” – this is a mistake!
- Ex. I am a sinner – No! You are a saint! I am broken – No! You are made whole! I am unholy – No! You are holy! *Gawa ito ni Kristo!*
- **Acts 10:13-16** – What God has called holy, no longer call unholy.
- *Ang tinawag na anak ng Diyos ay hindi na tatawaging prodigal son. Ang righteous ay hindi na tatawaging makasalan.*
- God has cleansed us. We are holy, made righteous, and obedient to God. We have the Holy Spirit as our teacher, we have the mind of Christ, an heir to the kingdom.
- And we are never out of fellowship with God. The blood of Jesus has brought us near to God.
- *Kung hindi mo man maramdaman na ikaw ay holy, grace to you! Kaya grace kasi undeserved* but God made us deserving. Grace – sukdulang biyaya! Exababall – Exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we ask or think.
- This comes from the tree of life. Do not settle with the tree of the knowledge of good and evil because it is not the truth.
- The church should teach about the gospel not the sinfulness of man. What we need to hear is the righteousness of God.
- The Holy Spirit convicts us of our righteousness, never of our sin. He convicts the world of one sin – rejecting Jesus Christ.
- We abstain from lust of the flesh so that unbelievers will not be able to say anything against us. Instead, through our good works they will glorify God.
- You have good works not bad works.
- We do good works not to get saved, saved *na tayo!* But because we are saved.
- We have the mind of Christ.
(1 Corinthians 1:30)
Declare: “I am wise, not foolish.”
- The Word is building us up. Do not let the word of man tear you down.
- Stop saying amen to non-Grace teachings. Walk according to how God describes us.
- Knowing who we are in Christ: Chosen people, holy, God's own special people, a royal priesthood – so much honor is given to us, yet in this verse we are told:
- **3. To submit to authorities here on earth.**
- Recognize the authorities of the land whether you voted them or not. God is a God of order and peace. Submit to every authority. Pray for them.
- Your prayer has a direct effect on the effectivity of the leader. Powerful words of kings and priests will affect their performance.
- Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

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All other things are opinions, facts that can change and may not have eternal value.
Kaya dito na tayo sa Word of God, sa Word of life.
The Word of God will give you grace, it will build you up.
So do not let the word of man tear you down.
We are but travelers in this world for we are citizens of heaven.
Therefore, let us abstain from fleshly lust.
Be focused on Jesus and what He has made us to be.
Let others see our good works that they may glorify God.
Walk according to how God describes us.
Let us submit to authorities and pray for them.
Honor all people. Love the brotherhood.
Fear God. Honor the king.