

# What is a Child of God?

Galatians 2:20

***“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.”***

Galatians 2:20, gives four critical insights that clearly identify a child of God.

1. There is a Critical Declaration of What Happens to Every Child of God (2:20a).  
*“I have been crucified with Christ” ...*
2. There is a Crucial Difference in What it Means to be a Child of God (2:20b).  
*... “and it is no longer I who live but Christ lives in me” ...*  
  
A.W. Tozer wrote: “To be crucified means first, the man on the cross is facing only one direction; second, he is not going back; and third, he has no future plans of his own.”
3. There is a Convincing Development of What it Produces in a Child of God (2:20c).  
*... “and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God”*  
Galatians 5:22-24...
4. The Conclusive Demonstration of What Had to Happen to Make Me a Child of God (2:20d).  
*... “who loved me and gave himself up for me.”*

*“Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; But the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him” (Isaiah 53:4-6).*

Conclusions:

## Life Group Discussion Questions – January 7, 2024

**Galatians 2:20** *I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.*

### DISCOVER

1. Why does God allow sin to be so attractive? Why does He leave us so vulnerable and so weak to sin?
2. Many Christians fail to live a victorious Christian life after their conversion. Why is that? Does this mean they will not be glorified in Christ at their end-of-days?
3. “I am free to serve God because it’s my responsibility.” What is the error in this statement? What should our motivation be to serve God?
4. In what ways do Christians try to live the Christian life without realizing that Christ lives in them? Why might Christ not be the full essence of their identities?

### EXPLORE

1. According to Galatians 2:20, as a Christian, it is no longer you who lives, but Christ who lives in you. What about you died when you received the Lord? Is this instantaneous or a lifelong process? Can you truthfully say that you have died to the world, the flesh and the Old Testament Law? In what way are you now free from the Law? (see Matthew 5:17)
2. Read John 12:24-26. Describe what a person looks like or behaves if they love their own life. How about a person who “hates his life”? What will the servant of Christ do? Is it possible to serve Christ, but do it “our own way”? What will the results be of dying, hating our lives, serving Christ and following Him?
3. Read Romans 6:2-6. What does it mean we will be in the likeness of Christ’s resurrection? Since Christ and believers are closely connected in this passage, what does Christ’s mastery over death mean for us? How can we be “alive to God”?
4. “Crucified with Christ” can have many meanings. Explain what it means in terms of:
  - We are no longer under the penalty of the Law.
  - We are new creations.
  - We have a new commitment.
5. A.W. Tozer once said, “To be crucified means, first, the man on the cross is facing only one direction; second, he is not going back; and third, he has no future plans of his own.” Who is the man on the cross Tozer refers to? Explain.

### EXPERIENCE

1. Describe how your life is aimed at living to the glory of God. What might need to change to better align your life for His purpose? Can you give-up your most favorite pleasure for Him? How will more of you die this coming year?
2. Consider how having died with Christ can impact the way we live for Christ. Make a list of characteristics (ways of the flesh) you’ve died to (ie. “selfishness”) Label this list “Dead to.” Then make another list labeled “Alive to.” (ie. “generosity”)

### PRAY

*Pray... Thank You, Lord, that Your word gives us hope; that we can learn to hold every thought captive in Christ. Show us how to have Your every desire; that every word and action we take are from the overflow of our growing faith in You, the One who was first crucified, that we may truly live. Let Your will be done, not ours. Amen.*