

Basics of the faith

The Christian Life

1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3

Becoming a Christian
is not the end,
but the **beginning**
of a dynamic relationship
with God involving
growth to **spiritual maturity**.

It is possible to be
a true Christian
and yet not be a healthy
or mature believer.

True faith naturally results in:

- ✓ **An inner freedom**
- ✓ **A strong impulse to faithfulness**
- ✓ **An effective power to bear fruit**

Freedom

An inner peace

**Freedom is the assurance that
(In Christ)
I have no shame or condemnation
even though I am not perfect.**

Romans 8:1-2

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.”

Freedom is the power to resist sin.

Romans 8:3-4

“For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin. He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”

Freedom

Faithfulness

An obedient life

Faith and faithfulness are related but not the same.

Ephesians 2:8-10

“For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

**Holiness is simply being true
to our new identity in Christ.**

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
delivered Himself up for me.”

True holiness involves our motives and thoughts.

Ephesians 4:15

“. . . But speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ,”

Colossians 3:2-3

“Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

Freedom

Faithfulness

Fruitfulness

A vital ministry

Fruitful ministry involves
three things.

Romans 12:1a

**An intimate sense of God's
law and grace.**

Romans 12:1b-2

Self-sacrifice

Romans 12:3-8

A proper use of service gifts.

I Timothy 1

“¹³ Retain the standard of **sound words** which you have heard from me, in the **faith** and **love** which are in Christ Jesus.”

Head

What we
profess

Doctrinal
explanation

What God
has done
for us

Heart

What we experience

Personal
encounter

What God
has done
in us

Hands

What we
do

Behavioral
ethics

What God
has done
through us



Hands

True
Christianity

Head

Heart

All Christians are called to a
commitment that results in
freedom, faithfulness, and
fruitfulness.

God accepts us in Christ
without approving of
everything we believe or do.

**True faithfulness
is from the inside out.**

Matthew 15:18

“But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man.”

1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3

“¹⁴ But a **natural** man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him . . . ¹⁵ But he who is **spiritual** appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no man.” . . .

“¹ And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to **men of flesh**, as to **babes** in Christ. ² I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, ³ for you are **still fleshly**. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not **fleshly**, and are you not walking like mere men?”

Three spiritual conditions

Natural man

Non Believer

Does not get it

Worldly

**Spiritually
young**

“a babe”

Carnal man

Immature Believer

A slow learner

Worldly

Spiritual man

Mature Believer

Gets it

Godly

**Spiritually
retarded**

“a delinquent”