

## Who I Am in Christ in Ephesians

This PDF walks you through the 13 “In Christ” passages in the book of Ephesians. This study can be used for a quarterly (12-week) class setting or for personal study.

**1) I AM FAMILY.** Ephesians 1:1-2 “Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”

Can there be a better salutation? Some ask, “are we all brothers and sisters in Christ?” Yes. Being in Christ means we are a part of a family of faithful believers. In Christ, God has provided the only source of true faith, true peace, and true grace.

**2) I AM CHOSEN.** Ephesians 1:3-4 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him.”

How do you know you are in Christ? Knowing that God chose His Church (“us” v.1) before the foundation of the world, means God knew we would have the choice to be in Christ before we were ever in existence. We have divine favor bestowed on us.

**3) I AM REDEEMED.** Ephesians 1:7-10 “In Him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of His will, according to His purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.”

To be in Christ means one has accessed the blood of Jesus, where sins are washed away. When we choose to be in Christ through obeying His word, we are redeemed.

**4) I AM HOPEFUL.** Ephesians 1:11-12 “In Him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of His glory.”

In Christ we have hope! Just as sure as the Jews hoped Christ would come the first time, we have the same confidence that He will come the second (read Hebrews 9:27–28).

**5) I AM BLESSED.** Ephesians 1:16–21 “...that you may know what is the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great might that he worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.”

In Christ, through the power of His resurrection, we are richly blessed. We have the inheritance of heaven to look forward to, and also His power to guide us on earth. At the heart of all this is the power of God worked in Christ. God has done the work to save our souls, and as a result we gladly obey Him.

**6) I AM ALIVE.** Ephesians 2:4–6 “But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus...”

When we are in Christ we are made alive together with him. We are dead to our old sins and selfishness. And, our life simply continues when we leave this earth. Therefore, in death, there is no sting (1 Corinthians 15:55). There is no end in death, but a beginning, in Christ.

**7) I AM A RECIPIENT OF KINDNESS.** Ephesians 2:7 "...so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."

The grace of God is overwhelming, because we did nothing to deserve it. It is the picture of the kindest act ever done by someone before or since. When we are in Christ, we are experiencing that kindness.

**8) I AM HIS WORKMANSHIP.** Ephesians 2:8–10 "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Being in Christ means we are His workmanship. We are saved by grace and as a result, we have the privilege to work. Do not think of this work as earning salvation, but gladly working because of it!

**9) I AM NEAR.** Ephesians 2:13 "But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ."

Before Christ, we were alienated from God (v.12) and His people. Sin literally meant we were excluded from His grace, His work. In Christ, we are no longer far away, we are brought near, into His presence.

**10) I AM AN HEIR.** Ephesians 3:6 "This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel."

It is good news (Gospel) that all people can now be heirs of the promise of God. There is not one person who cannot access the assurance of eternal life. All people will find their affirmations in Christ alone.

**11) I AM WISE.** Ephesians 3:10-12 "...so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in who we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him."

Through the church, the vast and deep wisdom of God is evenly dispersed to mankind. In a way, God breathes into the nostrils of the body, making the church come alive. We also have confidence and boldness to access Him, where we also access His wisdom.

**12) I AM CARED FOR.** Ephesians 3:20-21 "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

When we are in Christ, we are taken care of in ways we cannot begin to imagine. God is working in our lives in ways we cannot see, orchestrating everything to His perfect will.

**13) I AM FORGIVEN.** Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

The wisdom of God must be put to action. The result will be kindness. The greatest kindness is forgiving others the way God forgave you. After all, it is forgiveness that allows us to be "in Christ" to begin with.