

Faith The Only Way to Connect With Christ

John 12:44-50

In John 12:44-46, John describes Jesus crying out that those who heard Him should believe “INTO” Him. The Greek phrase describing our union “INTO” Christ by faith is used. Many who saw His miracles and heard His teaching said, “When the Messiah Comes, Will He do more miracles than these? And so they believed INTO Christ.” (John 7:31)

Listen to Dr. Sinclair Ferguson explain what this means to believe INTO Christ:

Faith not only rests upon Christ, but, according to the language of the New Testament, brings us ‘into’ Christ. On some 50 occasions we read of believing ‘into’ Him (Rom. 10:14; Gal 2:16; Phil. 1:29... Only when we get into Christ will His spiritual blessings be of practical benefit to us. How then do we get ‘into’ Christ? The Bible replies, by faith. The significance of this is sometimes overlooked in our popular preaching.

Occasionally, the NT speaks of becoming a Christian in terms of receiving Christ and thus getting Christ into our lives. But the emphasis is on the need to be taken out of ourselves and our sin, and to be ‘found in Christ.’ That gives union to Christ a very important practical dimension. It is not to be thought of primarily as a subjective experience which encourages us to look in and down. Rather it is something which lifts us up and out, drawing us on to the glorious liberty of the children of God. So in the allegory of the Vine and the branches (Jn 15:1ff) the chief need of the ‘branch’ is to be grafted into the Vine to depend entirely upon its nourishment.

(Dr. Sinclair Ferguson, “The Christian Life,” pg 109, B of Truth)

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LORD’S DAY MORNING WORSHIP

October 25, 2026



GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

Welcome, Prelude & Salutation

Call to Worship

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing! Psalm 100:1-2

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

* Opening Hymn

*I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art
168 Trinity Hymnal (verses 1-3 & 5)*

1 I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
my only trust and Savior of my heart,
who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.

2 Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
reigning omnipotent in ev'ry place:
so come, O King, and our whole being sway;
shine on us with the light of thy pure day.

3 Thou art the Life, by which alone we live,
and all our substance and our strength receive;
O comfort us in death's approaching hour,
strong-hearted then to face it by thy pow'r.

5 Our hope is in no other save in thee;
our faith is built upon thy promise free;
O grant to us such stronger hope and sure
that we can boldly conquer and endure. **

Invocation & Reading of God’s Law

Psalm of Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

* Song of Response

Holy Spirit

27 Covenant Praises (all verses)

1 Holy Spirit living Breath of God Breathe new life into my willing soul
Let the presence of the risen Lord Come renew my heart and make me whole
Cause Your word to come alive in me Give me faith for what I cannot see
Give me passion for Your purity Holy Spirit breathe new life in me

2 Holy Spirit come abide within May Your joy be seen in all I do
Love enough to cover ev'ry sin In each thought and deed and attitude
Kindness to the greatest and the least Gentleness that sows the path of peace
Turn my strivings into works of grace Breath of God show Christ in all I do

3 Holy Spirit from creation's birth Giving life to all that God has made
Show Your power once again on earth Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways
Let the fragrance of our pray'rs arise Lead us on the road of sacrifice
That in unity the face of Christ May be clear for all the world to see

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We Petition God

Congregational Prayer

Offering & Hymn

Like a River Glorious

699 Trinity Hymnal(verses 1,3)

1 Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace,
over all victorious in its bright increase;
perfect, yet it floweth fuller ev'ry day,
perfect, yet it groweth deeper all the way.

Refrain: Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest,
finding, as he promised, perfect peace and rest.

3 Ev'ry joy or trial falleth from above,
traced upon our dial by the Sun of Love.
We may trust him fully all for us to do;
they who trust him wholly find him wholly true. [Refrain] **

* Gloria Patri

#735 Trinity Hymnal

GOD SPEAKS HIS WORD TO HIS PEOPLE

* Prayer for Illumination

Scripture John 12:44-50 (p 1069, pew Bible)

Sermon Faith The Only Way to Connect With Christ

Prayer of Application

* Closing Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

92 Trinity Hymnal (all verses)

1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

2 Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

3 And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

4 That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever. **

* Benediction

* Doxology

#731 Trinity Hymnal

* Please stand if able

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