

Because God Loves Us

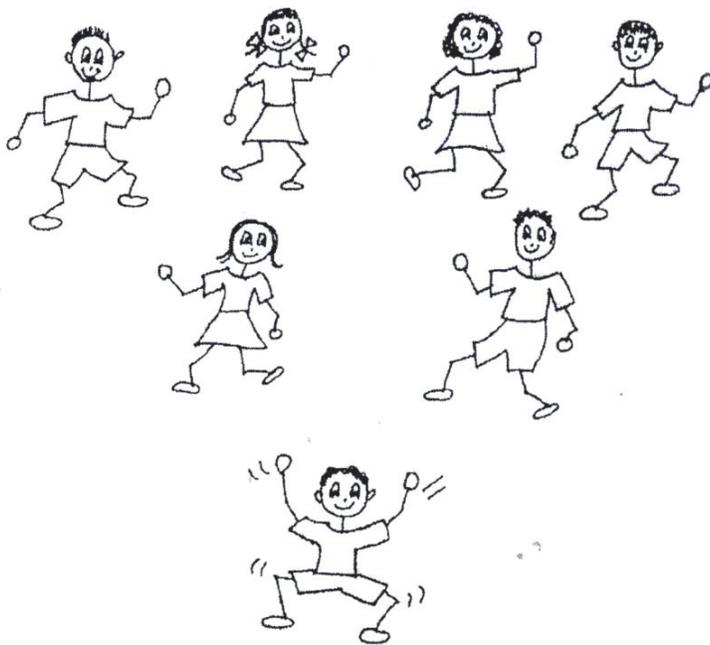
John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.



9-26-2014
Revised 10-17-2018

YES! Because God so loved the world, He gave us the way of salvation: On the cross Jesus paid the price for our sins; He died, was buried, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven; believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved. Jesus Christ, our Savior, did the work for salvation and we have the benefits when we believe in Him! And, because God loves us, He gives us **His power** to live the spiritual life after salvation. God knows that we can't live the spiritual life on our human power. He gives us the way to be delivered from the reign or rule of sin!

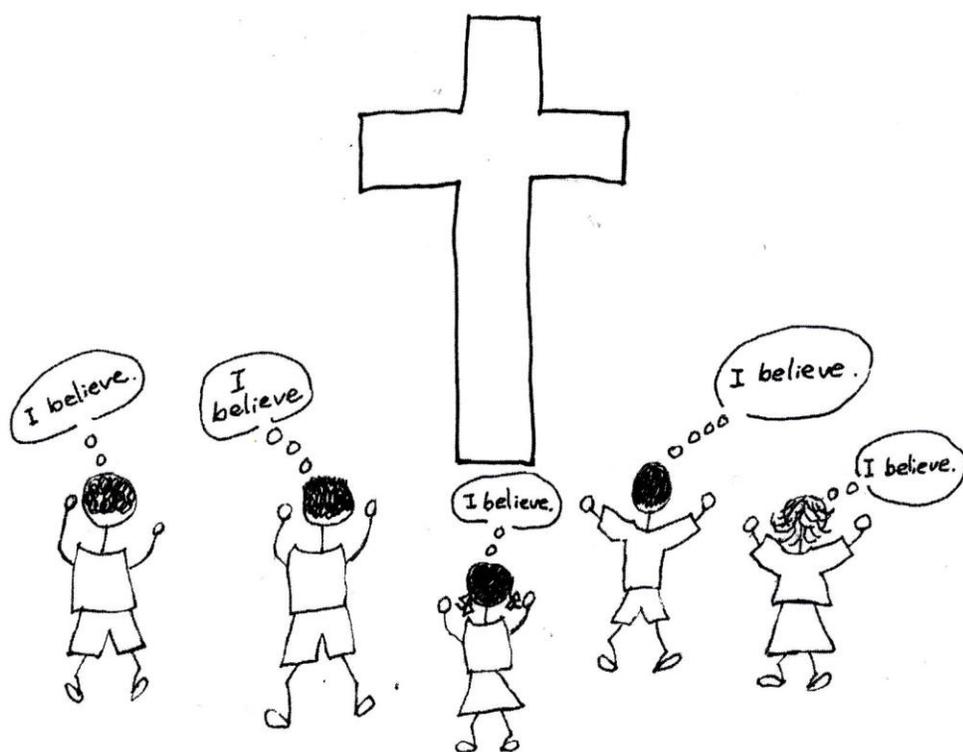
Ephesians 2:4-5 But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved.



Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

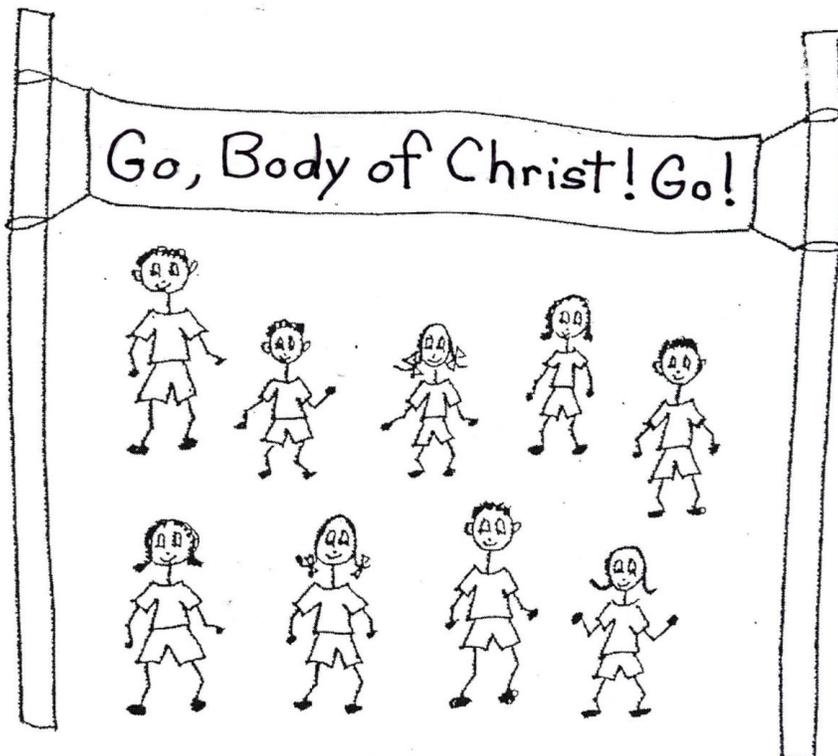
Romans 6:6-7 Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him (Jesus Christ), in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin.

We are to know that our old man was crucified with Jesus Christ on the cross! Let me introduce you to the old man. The old man is the race of mankind (unbelievers) who are slaves to sin. The old man is who mankind is in Adam. There is no relationship with God. How awful! The old man is a kind of man whose history in God's eyes **ended at the cross**. In order to receive the benefits of this, we must believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior. When we do believe, we receive the eternal life of Jesus Christ. **Then we are to live in our new man - who we are in Christ!**



2 Corinthians 5:17 (King James) Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

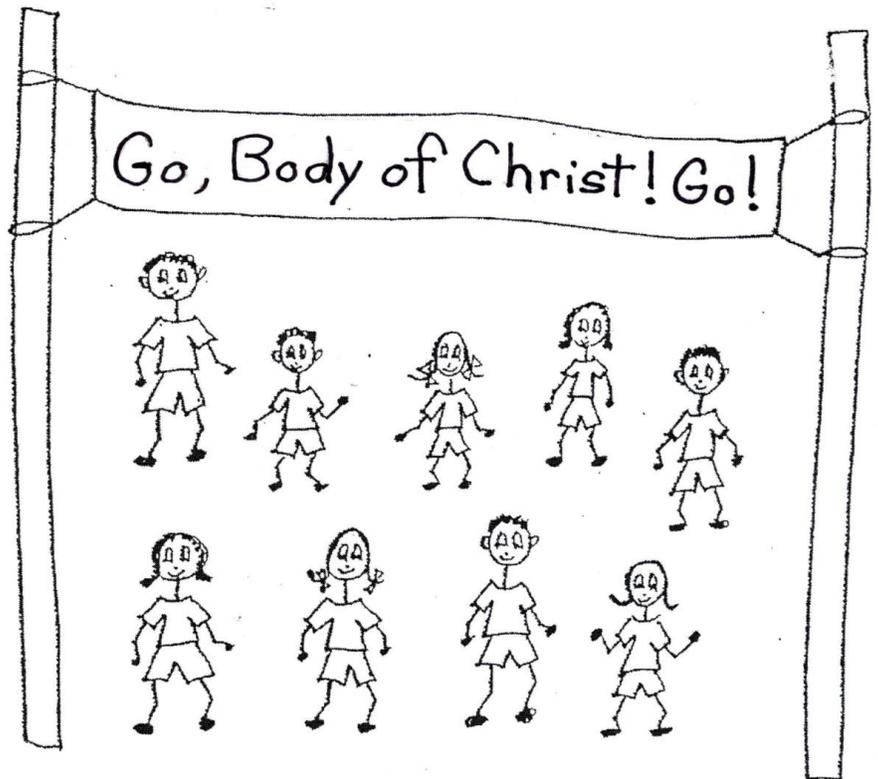
Now, let me introduce you to the new man. At salvation, God the Holy Spirit placed us in union with the resurrected Jesus Christ; we became a new man in Christ. The new man is a race of mankind whose history begins with the resurrection of Jesus Christ; there is **ONE** new man, a new kind of humanity made up of born-again believers. The new man is who we are in Christ. We are the body of Christ - the Church - and He is the Head. God wants to have His children living in a totally new way! The Holy Spirit indwells us and He will make it possible for us to live our new life in the body of Christ.



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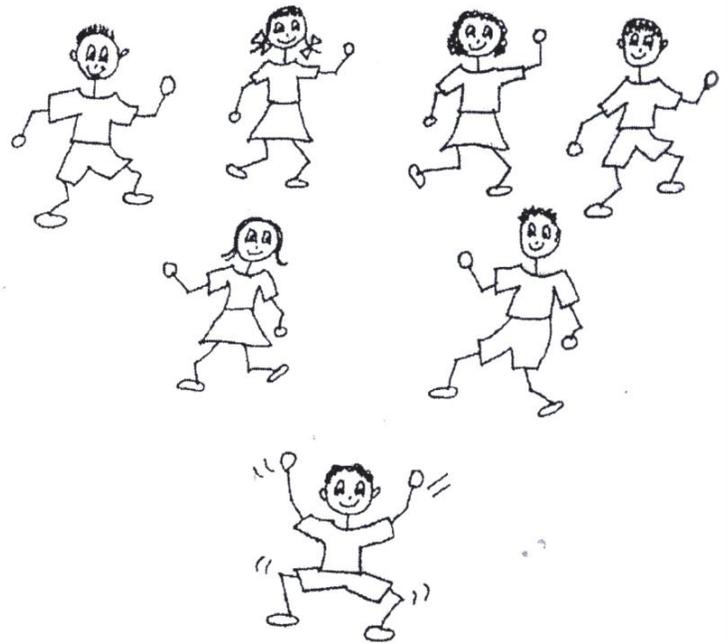
Now our old man was crucified with Jesus Christ so that our body of sin or the flesh could be put out of business. God the Holy Spirit is busy putting down the body of sin or our flesh and building up our new man, the Body of Christ. He is putting the body of sin out of business! God has totally tipped the scales in favor of us growing in the image of Jesus Christ! This is something that only God can do. The only part we have in it is using our volition to say "yes" to the will of God.

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 (Paul telling us about the Church.) For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...



Romans 6:6-7 Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin.

Our old man was crucified with Jesus Christ so that sin could no longer be our master. **Sin** singular describes the authority and power working to drive man to disobey God. It is rebellion against God. Sin is a master and an enemy. As believers in Jesus Christ we are no longer under the reign or rule of sin with sin as our master. Our chains have been broken. We are under the reign or rule of grace with Christ as our Master. We are free to choose and obey God's will and to not rebel against Him.



Now you might say, "What about sins - plural? Sins are the things we choose to think, do and say which are against the will of God. When we don't obey God, we sin. Jesus Christ has taken care of all of our sins. He paid the price for them on the cross; at salvation - when we believed in Jesus Christ as our Savior - all of our sins were forgiven! Because of our flesh or the body of sin, we will commit sins until the day we die. When we see that we are sinning, we are to acknowledge it, put away that sinful thinking and behavior and renew our minds with God's word. We are to use the power of the Holy Spirit to do this. Sin is no longer our master. Christ is our Master!

We know that our sins are forgiven because of Jesus Christ's work on the cross.



Romans 8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation [guilt] for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

The Holy Spirit is at work putting to death the deeds of the flesh and building up our new man. He is working to free us up from habits of sin. He both wars against the flesh and also leads us forward in the walk of a renewed life in Christ. He wants to develop in us habits of obeying God. Only the Holy Spirit has power to war against the flesh. Our job is to cooperate with the Spirit by letting Him set our minds on the things above, and fill our minds with God's truth. When we cooperate with the Holy Spirit, He will always win the war against the flesh!

Romans 8:12-13 So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh - for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.



The new man is who we are in Christ. The old man is who we were in Adam. The old man is someone you have put off through belief in Jesus Christ. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are now to put away the thinking and behavior of the old man. We are to present our body to God.

Romans 6:12-14 Therefore do not let sin reign [rule] in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

We are to have our mind renewed by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

We are to set our mind on the right things!

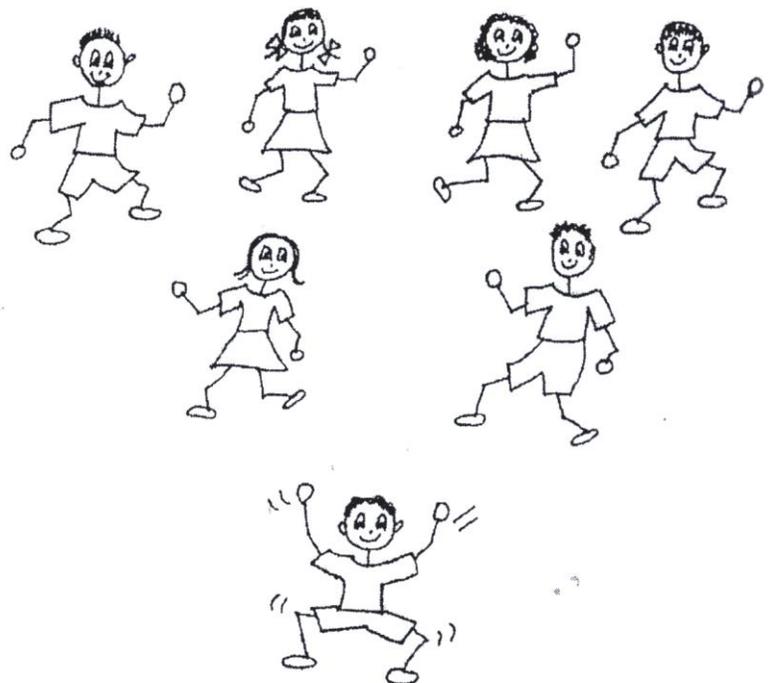
Colossians 3:2-3 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.



How big is the love of God? HUGE!!! God loves us a gazillion times more than we can imagine. Our knowledge of His love will deepen as we understand this. Because of God's love He has made it a fact that believers have died to the rule of sin! The Holy Spirit is inside our body and He is the One warring against the flesh. This frees up our mind to soak in God's love and enjoy what God has done for us! God wants us to focus on our new life! Sin is no longer our master. Christ is our Master!

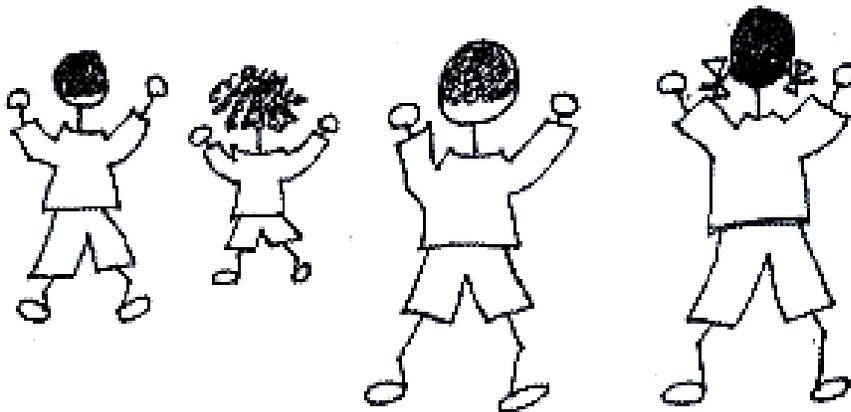


Romans 7:6 But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.





Ephesians 4:22-24 New King James Version (NKJV) That you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.



Philippians 4:4-9 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing [because I'm your God], but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God [one on One time with God whenever you want]. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things. The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.



Galatians 3:26-28"In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

