

**Sunday September 20, 2020**  
**Blessed**

In Christ Jesus, we have been changed.

To live a victorious life, it is important for us to know God and to also know who we are in Christ.

In several epistles before bringing a word of encouragement or instruction, the apostles found it fit to remind the believers of

- Who they have become in Christ
- What their destiny in God is
- How they must live their lives on this earth, pursuing holiness and walking in victory

Particularly when the believers were facing persecution or were in difficult times, it was all the more important for them to be reminded of who they are in Christ and embrace their new identity.

In this season as many of us journey through challenging times – in our job, finances, family, health etc, studying who we are in Christ and what we have in Him will help us face our battles with the assurance of God’s love and victory through Him.

Especially in adversity, we must be anchored and established in our true identity.  
Who we are in Christ, is who we truly are!

I am here to remind us of our Identity. And that we are indeed blessed inside-out as children of God who have received the Lord Jesus (John 1:12, 1 John 3:1-2)

God’s heart is to bless His people (Adam & Eve - Gen 1:28, Abraham, Numbers 6:26-27, Numbers 22:12)  
I am using the word blessed as used in scripture to state that one is highly favored, fortunate and happy.  
When we are in Christ, this is a positional spiritual reality irrespective of the circumstances that we find ourselves in or the emotions that we may be feeling in the natural. Yet, we can live out of this spiritual reality in our day-to-day lives.

The transformation has taken place in our spirit (1 Thes 5:23), but we have our part to play in living it out by the renewal of our minds and walking according to God’s Word (Col 3:9,10).

Knowing our new identity enlightens us to the reality that **we are blessed in Christ**.  
We then choose to live it out.

**We are blessed in Christ, because:**

#1. In our relationship with God, we have **boldness**

- ✓ We have been brought near to God
  - Forgiven and redeemed (Eph 1:7, Titus 2:14)
  - Justified (1 Cor 6:9-11, Romans 5:1,2, 2 Cor 5:21)

- Restored to God (Romans 5:11, Col 1:21-23)
- Enjoy intimacy with God (Gal 3:13-14, John 14:19,20, John 15:1-5, 1 Cor 6:17)
- ✓ We have become God's beloved (John 17:23, Romans 8:35-39, Col 1:12-14, Eph 1:3)

We get our security, significance and self-worth from the way God sees us.

We have boldness to enter God's presence (Ephesians 2:13,18, Ephesians 3:12, Hebrews 10:19)

#2. In life and its circumstances, we have **hope**

- ✓ We have a new position and new potential in Christ (Ezekiel 36:26, 2 Cor 5:17)
- ✓ We have victory through Christ (2 Corinthians 2:14, 1 Corinthians 15:57, 1 Peter 1:3)
- ✓ Blessings of the Cross & the New Covenant (Gal 3:13-14)
- ✓ We have the promise of eternal life (1 John 2:25)

We do not have to be limited by the past but can look ahead to everything that God has promised in His Word to us.

We have now become the people of God & been given many blessings and privileges.

# 3. Over sin, the world & demons, we have **overcoming power**

- ✓ We overcome (Romans 5:17, Revelation 12:11)
- ✓ We can crucify the flesh and live for God (Galatians 2:20)
- ✓ We have authority to rule and reign (Eph 2:6)

We are blessed to be a blessing.

Let us shine the glory of God

**1 Peter 2:9**

***9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;***

- ✓ Let us acknowledge the good things we have in Christ (Philemon 1:6)
- ✓ Be rooted in God and live out the spiritual reality of being in Christ (Col 2:7)
- ✓ Believe and enjoy the blessedness that we have in Christ.
- ✓ Know that we are anointed in battle against satan and his demons.

God has surrounded us in every way. We are a blessed people.



## LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE



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This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

### **Preparation**

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at [apcwo.org/sermons](http://apcwo.org/sermons). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

### **Welcome**

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

### **LISTEN to God's Word**

Read the following Scripture passages: *2 Timothy 4:7-8, Proverbs 29:18, Hebrews 12:1-5, Isaiah 40:31*

### **INVESTIGATE God's Word Together**

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1. What makes us a blessed people?
2. How are we blessed in our relationship with God now that we are saved?
3. As believers, we have hope. What gives us hope in the circumstances of our life?
4. As believers, how can we overcome sin, the world & demons?
5. How can we be a blessing to the world around us?

### **FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey**

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

### **ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another**

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

*1, families to be protected and strengthened*

*2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*

*3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.*

Close by thanking God together.



**USEFUL RESOURCES**



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

**YOUTUBE:** <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

**CHURCH:** <https://apcwo.org>

**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

**FREE BOOKS:** <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

**JESUS CHRIST:** <https://examiningjesus.com>

**BIBLE COLLEGE:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

**E-LEARNING:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

**WEEKEND SCHOOLS:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

**COUNSELING:** <https://chrysalislife.org>

**MUSIC:** <https://apcmusic.org>

**MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP:** <https://pamfi.org>

**CHURCH APP:** <https://apcwo.org/app>

**CHURCHES:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

**WORLD MISSIONS:** <https://apcworldmissions.org>