

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

The Christian way of life is the best way of life possible! Jesus said He came so His followers “may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). God’s way of living has great benefits for this life and offers “pleasures forevermore” in the next (1 Timothy 4:8 ; Psalm 16:11).

Christians are “[God’s workmanship](#), created in Christ Jesus to do good works” ([Ephesians 2:10](#)). And these last four words “[to do good works](#)” epitomize the behavior that glorifies God and makes Christ real to others. Granted, there are obstacles in our daily lives that can encumber our minds and hinder our spiritual progress, but only if we let them. Nonetheless, Christians are called to live lives that are “holy and pleasing to God” ([Romans 12:1](#)), and exemplary Christian behavior that allows us to [fully commit ourselves to serving the Lord](#) is made possible as we are [empowered by the Holy Spirit](#) who enables us to do the Father’s will ([Romans 8:9](#)). Indeed, “the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him” ([2 Chronicles 16:9](#)).

1. The Christian Life, Fully Committed to Serving the Lord

[11 reasons why being a Christian is totally worth it \(activechristianity.org\)](#)

1. All your sins are instantly forgiven.

Part of becoming a Christian is that you must confess your sins to Jesus and ask for forgiveness. See [1 John 1:9](#). If you have sinned against other people, you must put that right as well. The quicker you do it, the better. To be forgiven is a great joy and relief! You do not need to continue bearing a burden of guilt for your past sins, no matter how great or small. There is tremendous joy in knowing that you have put your affairs right before God and man. With forgiveness we are actually released from eternal perdition and are reconciled with God Himself!

2. You get help to stop consciously sinning altogether!

Even better news is that our salvation doesn’t stop at forgiveness. In fact, as a Christian you get help so that you don’t have to sin consciously, ever again. Forgiveness is an enormous gift, but how much greater to get help from Jesus in the time of temptation, before you fall in sin. You really can be free from sin! See [Hebrews 2:18](#) and [Hebrews 4:15-16](#).

3. The Holy Spirit starts to teach you and free you from yourself.

Every day, the Spirit wants to show you more of your own sinful human nature: stubbornness, arrogance, demands on others, envy, laziness, etc. See [John 16:13](#). These things run deep in our nature. The Spirit teaches us to deny ourselves in these areas (and more) and take up our cross

every day, just like Jesus said. As these things begin to die, gradually the virtues of Christ begin to grow and take their place. What a blessing to not be controlled by our lusts anymore! These virtues are part of the divine nature, eternal life, which has been promised to us! ([2 Peter 1: 2-8](#))

4. You have peace and joy that nothing can take away.

As you live this overcoming life, you will have peace in your heart—peace from Jesus Himself. Nobody and nothing can take it away from you! Scriptures like [Romans 8:28](#) and [Psalm 23:1](#) can help you—right when life is pressing you from all sides. You know that God is in control! He guides every detail of your life with precision and you can have perfect confidence in His care.

5. Jesus is your mighty Helper and Friend!

Jesus knows what it's like to have a human nature and be tempted by it—and He was the first to overcome, every single time. He can help you do the same thing. See [Hebrews 2:18](#) and [Hebrews 4:15-16](#). He is standing by your side, ready to help. You, too, can overcome in every temptation you meet! You can cast all your cares on Him. The more you open your heart to Him, with whatever you're experiencing in the moment, the closer your relationship will become. He has promised to never leave you or forsake you.

6. Your earthly and material needs will be taken care of.

The Scriptures promise every disciple that their earthly needs will be met. See [Matthew 6:31-33](#). Does this mean you should quit your job to read your Bible all day? No. Neither is it a guarantee that you will live in luxury. But it does mean that you will always have enough. You should not—and do not need to—be anxious about your earthly needs ever again.

7. Your life will become stable.

Believing in God and in the Scriptures will make you a stable, grounded person. See [Ephesians 4:14](#). You won't be knocked off balance by emotional circumstances, strong people or the latest social media buzz. You will learn to not be a pushover. You will learn to go through difficult situations, rather than avoiding them or finding an easy way out. People will respect you more, and you'll respect yourself more.

8. You will always have something to do.

As a Christian, boredom is a thing of the past. See [Ephesians 2:10](#). Your mission, every day, is to find God's will in your everyday life. The Bible is your handbook, and it's full of instructions. But you have to read it and start applying it. A simple place to start [is 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18](#), for example. When you do this, you will find that you always have something to work on. You will also discover that your mission is to bring joy and blessing to the people around you! This is a life worth getting out of bed for!

9. You will have meaningful relationships.

You won't be alone in this school! ([1 John 1:7](#)) Being a Christian in this dark world can feel lonely at times. But there is a fire blazing brightly where disciples gather to be strengthened in their mutual training. Seek this fire, and seek fellowship with disciples. You will find comfort and strength, and be challenged to live even more fervently for God. These will be the most meaningful relationships of your life.

10. You will be a light in this world.

As evil takes greater hold on this world, things just keep getting darker and darker. But the power in us through the Holy Spirit is greater than any evil in this world. See [1 John 4:4](#), [John 16:33](#) and [1 John 5:4](#). Yes! You can be a light to those around you, rather than being dragged down by the sins of our time. Don't be dismayed by what you see, either within yourself or in the world. Jesus said, "Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

11. You will rule in the world to come.

The Christian life is one of intense training. It requires giving up everything, not just at the beginning, but again and again as the Holy Spirit leads you against your own sinful nature. But in the world to come, we will rule and reign with Jesus for all eternity. See [Revelation 3:21](#). The end of your earthly life will become a gateway into the glory that God was preparing you for all along. You will step through the door—and into the commencement of real life. This is your calling

2. The Christian Life, Empowered by the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit bears witness to the true-truth. The Holy Spirit also empowers us to do many miraculous things for our good and His glory. By the power of the Holy Spirit we can: boldly proclaim the gospel; But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me[a] in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. (Jesus to His disciples before he ascended to Heaven, Acts 1:8)

[The Holy Spirit-2 | Precept Austin](#)

Batteries Not Included: Elmer Towns aptly illustrates why so much of Christian ministry has failed to bring revival to America - Sometimes children receive toys marked with three words that promise problems ahead: "batteries not included." Without batteries to energize these toys, they will not do what they were designed to do. Although they may look like the picture on the box, they fail to function like the toy our children see in the television commercial. Like the toy without its batteries, many Christians fail to rise to their potential effectiveness because they are not energized with the power of the Holy Spirit. They may look like a Christian should look, but they fail to perform as a Christian should perform. They lack the **power of the Holy Spirit** to overcome sin in their lives and increase their effectiveness in ministry. Only as they

yield more completely to God and allow the Holy Spirit to exercise greater control in their lives can they be energized by the power He offers. ([The Names of the Holy Spirit](#)) Note that this illustration breaks down somewhat for if one is a true follower of Christ, he or she has been given the "batteries" so to speak. More to the point, we need to allow the batteries to be turned on, so that we might function as we should!

As followers of Christ, we don't need "**help**", we need **enablement**! Notice the difference of the these two English words...

Help = to assist or aid someone to do something, especially by sharing the work; "lend a helping hand" - this implies the one being helped has some inherent power of their own. They just need a boost or a little assistance.

Enable = to make able, to supply with power, to furnish with ability, to provide with the means, to make possible, to empower - this word implies that one has no inherent power and is completely dependent on being given the necessary power to accomplish a task.

In John 6 Jesus emphasizes the futility of flesh in the realm of supernatural endeavors, declaring in essence that we don't just need a little "boost," but we are 100% in need of the Spirit's supernatural enabling power!

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing (Greek = absolutely nothing of eternal value); the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. ([John 6:63](#), cp a similar truth in [John 15:5](#). As an aside how do we abide in Jesus today? Is it not as we abide in His Word and yield to His Spirit Who abides in us!)

[Acts 2:33](#) "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

[John 20:21](#) Jesus therefore said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

[Luke 11:13](#) "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

[John 16:6](#) "But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 7 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. 8 "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment; 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you no longer behold Me; 11 and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. 12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own

initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. 14 "He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine and shall disclose it to you.

One aspect of the Helper's enabling ministry in our lives is conviction, a word derived from two Latin terms meaning "cause to see." Conviction is the means by which the Holy Spirit opens our eyes to see what is right and wrong in our lives.

The truth (16:13) - truth in the above passage has the definite article shall guide you into all the truth. Through the written Word He guides to Him Who is the Truth, our Lord.

Guide into all the truth - The Lord's promise that the Spirit will guide believers into all the truth has primary reference to the writers of the New Testament. But it also extends in a secondary sense to the Holy Spirit's work of illumination (cf. [1 Cor. 2:10-16](#)).

Not on His Own initiative - He does not speak from Himself, that is in independence of the Father and the Son. His testimony is the testimony of the Father and the Son, as the Son on earth heard the Father's voice and spoke of that which He heard from the Father (cf. [John 5:19](#); [7:16](#); [8:26-29](#); [14:10](#))

Thus, the Holy Spirit's leading will always be consistent with God's revealed will in the Bible; He will never lead anyone to violate the principles of God's Word. When He speaks, He speaks through the Scriptures that He inspired. **MacArthur**,

Disclose what is to come - Like the Lord's earlier promise that the Spirit would guide the disciples into all the truth, that phrase refers primarily to the New Testament (eg **book of Revelation**). The New Testament encompasses the entire sweep of history from Pentecost to the eternal state, as well as containing "everything pertaining to life and godliness" ([2 Peter 1:3](#)).

Glorify Me - By this we can test all teaching and preaching. If it has the effect of magnifying the Savior, then it is of the Holy Spirit.

Summary of Jesus' Equipping His Disciples with the Holy Spirit in John

- (1) He is an answer to prayer ([Jn 14:16](#))
- (2) He is called another Helper, the Holy Spirit ([Jn 14:16](#), [26](#))
- (3) He is the Paraclete, the One Who comes alongside
- (4) He will be with us forever ([Jn 14:16](#))
- (5) He is the Spirit of truth ([Jn 14:17](#), [Jn 15:27](#))
- (6) He comes in the Name of Jesus - He accomplishes what Jesus desires ([Jn 14:26](#))
- (7) He will teach us all things ([Jn 14:26](#))

- (8) He will bring to remembrance the Word of God ([Jn 14:26](#))
- (9) He is sent by Jesus from the Father ([Jn 15:26](#), [Jn 16:7](#))
- (10) He bears witness of Jesus ([Jn 15:26](#))
- (11) By implication, we will bear witness of Jesus ([Jn 15:27](#))
- (12) Jesus must go away for the Helper to come ([Jn 16:7](#))
- (13) He will convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgment ([Jn 16:8](#))
- (14) He will guide us into all truth ([Jn 16:13](#), cp [Jn 16:14b](#))
- (15) He will speak what He hears (from Jesus, from the Father) ([Jn 16:13](#))
- (16) He will disclose what is to come ([Jn 16:13](#))
- (17) He will glorify Jesus (Not Himself) ([Jn 16:14](#))

THE SPIRIT OF JESUS by Chuck Smith

([Acts 16:7](#), [Php 1:19](#))

Lord Jesus Christ,
Fill me with thy Spirit
that I may be occupied with His presence.
I am blind – send Him to make me see;
dark – let Him say, ‘Let there be light’!
May He give me faith to behold
my name engraven in Thy hand,
my soul and body redeemed by Thy blood,
my sinfulness covered by the life of
pure obedience.
Replenish me by His revealing grace,
that I may realize my indissoluble union with Thee;
that I may know Thou hast espoused me
to Thyself for ever,
in righteousness, love, mercy, faithfulness;
that I am one with Thee,
as a branch with its stock, as a building
with its foundation.
May His comforts cheer me in my sorrows,
His strength sustain me in my trials,
His blessings revive me in my weariness,
His presence render me a fruitful tree of holiness,
His might establish me in peace and joy,

His incitements make me ceaseless in prayer,
His animation kindle in me undying devotion.
Send Him as the Searcher of my heart,
to show me more of my corruptions
and helplessness
that I may flee to Thee,
cling to Thee,
rest on Thee,
as the beginning and end of my salvation. (cp [Rev 2:1-3](#))
May I never vex Him by my indifference
and waywardness,
grieve Him by my cold welcome,
resist Him by my hard rebellion.
Answer my prayers, O Lord,
for Thy great name's sake.