

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Following Jesus is something we cannot do <u>alone</u>, it starts through a <u>relationship</u> with Him.

In what ways do we become different through a relationship with Jesus?

- 1) Our identity is fixed in Jesus.
- 2) We always have reason to give <u>thanks</u>.
- 3) God <u>provides</u> all we need to stand faithfully for Him.

"And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

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Memory Verse for 2021

"that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 3:11–14

Scripture to Pray

Isaiah 55:6-9

"Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near: let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

From the Resources

"Christian faith finds its focus not in ideas or systems, but in the *person* of Christ in whom God meets us.

If God as Father is the source and ground of all that is good, Christ is the mediator or channel of these gifts."

- Anthony C. Thiselton 1 Corinthians: A Shorter Exegetical & Pastoral Commentary

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