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# Becoming a Faith Prepper

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How to Focus our Prayers on His Word

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How to Focus our Prayers on His Word  
How to Understand what Salvation Means  
and Who We Are in Him

# Some Life-Changing Scriptures

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# Our Union with Christ

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Often this union with Him is simply stated as being “in Him” or “in Christ” or “in Christ Jesus,” and these phrases occur 164 times in the writings of Paul alone.

# Our Union with Christ

Most of our understanding of our union with Christ comes from the words of Jesus Himself, especially in His use of metaphors. For example, He compared our union with Him like that of a vine and its branches.

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“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

John 15:4-5

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In each of these instances, and others, we find our Lord revealing to us a wonder that is almost too amazing to believe and that Paul, especially in Ephesians 2, develops more completely.

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And it will greatly enhance your efforts to become a faith prepper.

# Our Union with Christ

There are three principal unions that are revealed in Scripture that serve as the mysteries that form the foundation of our faith.

# Our Union with Christ

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in One Godhead.

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God eternally exists as three persons,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
and each person is fully God,  
and there is one God.

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Jesus Christ was fully God and fully man in one  
person, and will be so forever.

# Our Union with Christ

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Three, the union of the Church to Christ,  
with He being the Head and they being the members,  
that constitute one mystical body.

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And this new understanding is both wonderful and exhilarating!

But often it is hard to understand with our natural minds.

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Let's look at this union a bit more closely.

# Two Types of Union

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And God established Adam as a representative or federal head of the human race.

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This is where we begin to understand original sin.

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First, our union with Christ can be seen as a federal (head) or covenantal union (called Federalism).

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See 1 Peter 3:18 – “the just for the unjust”

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Our sin was imputed to Him and His righteousness was imputed to us.

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And because He now sits at the right hand of the Father in glory, so also are we seated.

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It is like positional vs practical sanctification.

And it can be seen most clearly in Jesus' teaching about the vine and branches in John 15.

# John 15

# John 15

“I am (Jesus) the true vine,  
and My Father is the vinedresser.

Every branch (you and me) in Me that does not bear  
fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit  
He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

You are already clean because of the word which I  
have spoken to you.”

John 15:1-3

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If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a  
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If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.”

John 15:5-6

# John 15

“I am the vine, you are the branches.  
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“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you,  
you will ask what you desire,  
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By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much  
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# Faith Prepper

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Why is this important?

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Let's look at what else the Scriptures have to say about our union with Christ.

# Our Union with Christ

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“A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.”

John 14:19-20

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Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

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For we are members of His body,  
of His flesh and of His bones.

“For this reason a man shall leave his father and  
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This is a great mystery,  
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“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.”

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John 17:20-21

How can sinful, fallen, yet forgiven man be “in Us” and share the intimacy of the Godhead with Jesus?

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“And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”

John 17:22-23

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How can the Father love us as much as  
He loves His own Son?

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One last thought...

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When Christ was crucified, our old man was also.

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For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Romans 6:5-6

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For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died.

1 Corinthians 5:14

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And when Christ rose from the dead, we were also made alive to rise with Him and be seated where He is seated. How is this possible?

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Even when we were dead in trespasses, (He) made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and (He) raised us up together, and (He) made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

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But how can God love us that much when we still sin against Him and devalue Christ's sacrifice for us?

How can anyone love us that much?

And why would a righteous God love such unrighteous people as His elect?

You Love Me Anyway

# You Love Me Anyway

The question was raised  
As my conscience fell  
A silly little lie

# You Love Me Anyway

The question was raised  
As my conscience fell  
A silly little lie

It didn't mean much  
But it lingers still  
In the corners of my mind

Still You call me to walk  
On the edge of this world  
To spread my dreams and fly

Still You call me to walk  
On the edge of this world  
To spread my dreams and fly

But the future's so far  
My heart is so frail  
I think I'd rather stay inside

But You love me anyway  
It's like nothing in life  
That I've ever known

But You love me anyway  
It's like nothing in life  
That I've ever known

Yes, You love me anyway  
Oh Lord, how You love me  
How You love me

It took more than my strength  
To simply be still  
To seek but never find

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To simply be still  
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All the reasons we change  
The reasons I doubt  
And why do loved ones have to die?

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It's like nothing in life  
That I've ever known

But You love me anyway  
It's like nothing in life  
That I've ever known

Yes You love me anyway  
Oh Lord, how You love me

I am the thorn in Your crown  
But You love me anyway

I am the thorn in Your crown  
But You love me anyway  
I am the sweat from Your brow  
But You love me anyway

I am the thorn in Your crown

But You love me anyway

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I am the nail in Your wrist

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But You love me anyway

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But You love me anyway

I am the nail in Your wrist

But You love me anyway

I am Judas' kiss

But You love me anyway

See now I am the man who yelled out from the crowd  
For Your blood to be spilled  
On this earth shaking ground

Yes then I turned away with a smile on my face  
With this sin in my heart, tried to bury Your grace  
And then alone in the night I still call out for You  
So ashamed of my life, my life, my life!

But You love me anyway  
Oh God, how You love me  
Yes You love me anyway  
It's like nothing in life  
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# Faith Prepper

# Prayer Before Anything

