

THE KEY TO CHRISTIAN LIVING

Part 8 of THE GOSPEL WAY

The Cornerstone Youth Group. APRIL 8, 2026.

THE APOSTLES' CREED: WE BELIEVE

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ,

his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day, he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

The one, holy, catholic Church,

The communion of saints,

The forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body,

And the life everlasting.

Amen.

THE KEY TO CHRISTIAN LIVING

SUBMITTING TO GOD AND HIS WORD

The basic issues of the Christian life must be maintained by **daily decisions**.

What are these daily decisions that we must make? We have been commanded to **surrender ourselves** to God daily. We are to surrender ourselves as a **living sacrifice** (Mark 8:34; Romans 12:1)

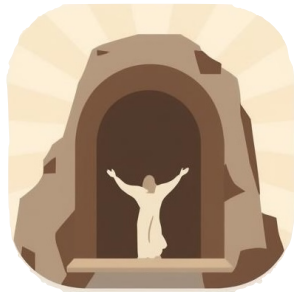
Romans 12:1 (CSB) Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship.

Our growth in godliness grows out of a relationship with Jesus Christ. This relationship is based on a complete and honest surrender to his will and ways that allows us to cooperate fully with Jesus. He must have control of every area of our lives. When we trust and obey, we grow more like Jesus.

THE POWER OF JESUS TO CHANGE US

Jesus has massive spiritual power to change our minds, attitudes, desires, thinking patterns, decisions, and behavior. Where once we were captive to sins, Jesus frees us to live for God.

This new freedom is 100% based on the work of Jesus in his **Crucifixion, Resurrection, Ascension, and Pentecost**.



The Power of the Crucifixion

Christ's Crucifixion cleanses us from the power, influence, and effect of our sinful nature. It can no longer control us.

Romans 6:6 (NLT) We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin.

Therefore, we must obey the command to “*throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life*” (Ephesians 4:22, NLT).

The Power of the Resurrection

Christ's Resurrection provides the power to live a new life for God.

Romans 6:4 (NLT) And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

Therefore, we must obey the command to “*Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy*” (Ephesians 4:24, NLT).

The Power of the Ascension

Christ's Ascension provides daily freedom from Satan's control.

Ephesians 1:22 (NLT) God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church.

Ephesians 2:6 (NLT) For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.

Therefore, we must obey the command to resist the devil and refuse to give him an opening back into our lives. For example:

Ephesians 4:26-27 (NLT) And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 for anger gives a foothold to the devil.

1 Peter 5:8-9 (NLT) Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. 9 Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith.

The Power of Pentecost

Christ's gift of the Holy Spirit, who was poured out on the Day of Pentecost, is our daily power for godly living and effective service.

Therefore, we must obey the command to open our lives to his presence, power, and leadership every day: *"Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit"* (Ephesians 5:18, NLT).