

## One with Christ\*

God's goal and desire is to make us one with Himself. Each of us. All of us. That has always been His amazing purpose.

But for many believers, Jesus is like an unnoticed guest, shut up in some little-visited closet in a corner of their house. He has been there since they believed in Him and received Him. He longs to make Himself known to them, to be one with them in their daily lives and share in all their interests. But He will not force Himself on anyone.

They walk through their lives unaware of their Guest, ignorant of their marvelous privileges. They come and go, lay their plans, make their decisions, pursue their joys here and there, long for peace, stumble through relationships, and inwardly mourn their unsatisfying lives, all with little reference to Him.

Believer, hear this beautiful, life-changing truth: The Lord is with you! The Lord is in you! Throw open every door to Him. Make Him the center of every part of your life. Talk to Him. Thank Him. Consult Him. Trust Him. Lean on Him. Get to know Him.

But this picture of Jesus as a guest doesn't fully express the reality. He longs to join His innermost life to our innermost life, to the essence of who we are. Through a living relationship, built on trust, He will come more and more into real union with us. His will becomes our will. His actions become our actions. His love, His passion, His holiness become increasingly ours – not in theory, not in ecstatic emotion, not someday and far away, but now, in living, daily reality.

Like every part of salvation, this happens by God's love, through simple faith. It comes by turning to Him and trusting Him, one step at a time.

*\*\*One with Christ" was inspired by chapter 17 of "The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life", by Hannah Whitall Smith, 1875.*

*Father, You put within me  
the Spirit of Your holy Son Jesus,  
a Spirit that  
longs for You,  
trusts You, and  
worships You.  
Help me to keep in step with His Spirit.*

**Hymn: [In Your Spirit](#)**

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