

What Names Do We Now Have in Christ and What Do They Mean for Us?

*Jesus Walks on Water

Matthew 14:22–34

The Name Christian

When people come to faith in Jesus, they receive a new name and a new identity, a name that describes them as something new. That name is *Christian*. It means one who belongs to Christ. Followers of Jesus were first called Christian in the city of Antioch during the time of the apostle Paul. Can you think of other names that may be synonyms for the name *Christian*?

A Name to Live Up To

Because we are sinners, even Christians sometimes fail to evidence their faith in Jesus. Read Matthew 14:22–34 to learn about what happened to Peter after he asked for the opportunity to put his faith to the test. Label the following story events in the correct order:

- _____ Jesus assures the disciples who He is and encourages them.
- _____ Peter cries out, “Lord, save me.”
- _____ Jesus dismisses the crowds and sends the disciples to the other side of the sea.
- _____ Jesus takes hold of Peter’s hand.
- _____ They get in the boat, and the wind ceases.
- _____ Jesus goes to the mountain by Himself.
- _____ During the fourth watch of the night, Jesus comes to them, walking on the sea.
- _____ Peter asks Jesus to identify Himself by commanding Peter to walk on the water.
- _____ Peter sees the wind and becomes afraid and begins to sink.
- _____ The disciples declare Jesus to be the Son of God.
- _____ Jesus rebukes Peter.

REVIEW

righteousness— _____

innocence— _____

blessedness— _____

Righteous, Innocent, and Blessed—in Jesus

Can we really be called these things because we believe in Jesus? Is there really forgiveness and a new beginning for Peter and all others who fail to live up to our new identity in Christ? We certainly don’t deserve it, but yes, in Jesus, we are forgiven! Jesus has redeemed us, lost and condemned creatures. And, yes, because of His life, death, and resurrection for us, we can indeed be called righteous, innocent, and blessed. Review what Jesus has done for you by completing the activity below, matching each statement about a person who trusts in Jesus for salvation with the Bible verse most closely relating to that statement.

- _____ 1. Christ took my sin upon Himself so that I may be righteous and blameless in the sight of God.
 - _____ 2. Because Christ has saved me, I am now freed from the slavery of sin and thus freed to serve God.
 - _____ 3. As a child of God through faith, I am chosen and set apart so that I can praise God for the light He brings into my life.
 - _____ 4. As Christ’s redeemed people, we are to set our hearts on the things of God.
 - _____ 5. Because Christ has died for us, we are to live for Him.
- a. 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 6:6).
 - b. You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light (1 Peter 2:9 NIV).
 - c. God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21 NIV).
 - d. He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised (2 Corinthians 5:15).
 - e. Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3:2–3 NIV).



Someone New

Ramid and his family left their war-torn country at night, barely escaping with their lives. They found a new home overseas, where they worked hard to build new lives for themselves. One day after soccer practice, a friend told Ramid about Jesus. The next day, his friend gave him a Bible. Eventually, Ramid became a Christian and received Christian Baptism, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Ramid’s family disowned him, but Ramid says he is happy in Jesus. He continues to pray for his parents and sisters. And his new Christian friends have become his family in more ways than one!

REMEMBER

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17