

CLASS: SS1

SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

TOPIC: NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

WEEK: 9

TERM: FIRST

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

(ROM 6:1-4, 12-14, COLSSIAN 3:1-14)

New life in Christ, in the context of the scripture means a break from the old nature; a total change in character from bad to good. St Paul in his epistle to the Romans and the Colossian made it clear that once a person has accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Saviour, he is expected to drop his sinful nature and wear a new nature.

To The Romans:

Paul stressed the importance of baptism particularly by immersion, to Christians. When a Christian is baptism by immersion he/she is dipped into the water and so, it is assumed that he/she has been buried with Christ .When he/she comes out from the water, it symbolizes that the person has been raised with Christ.

After Baptism, the convert is expected to stop his old sinful life and start a new life in the nature of Christ. St. Paul advised Christian that the grace of God in their life should not be a reason for them to continue in their sinful life.

To The Colossians:

Again, in his letter to the Colossians, Paul enjoined Christian to have faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ .They should seek things above (heavenly thing) and put away mundane or idolatry, anger, wrath, malice slander and foul talks. These things are old nature which they must put off and then put on the new nature which is renewed in the knowledge and image of God.

As God's chosen people, Christians were advised by Paul to be holy and having compassion, kindness, holiness, meekness, patience, forbearance and forgiving heart toward one another with love. He summarized the message by advising Christians to make the word of Christ their guiding principle which should dwell

richly in them. They should teach and admonish one another in all wisdom and sing psalms, hymns and spiritual song with thankfulness in their heart to God.

WAYS CHRISTIAN CAN SHOW THEIR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

- A. Living a new life and forgetting the old nature.
- B. As Christians, we should try to be a light and salt of the world as Christ commanded us.
- C. As Christians, we must get involved in the work of preaching the gospel and contribute our quota for every good work within the Christendom.

PRACTICES WHICH CAN HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECT IN ANY CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

- 1. Gossiping and backbiting against one another
- 2. Greed and selfishness
- 3. Lack of love for one another
- 4. Jealousy and envy
- 5. Quarreling and fighting
- 6. Unforgiveness
- 7. Covetousness and stealing
- 8. Bearing false witness
- 9. Drug abuse
- 10. Child abuse
- 11. Sexual immorality
- 12. Fraud and corruption
- 13. Social injustice

STEP NEW MEMBER IN THE CHURCH SHOULD TAKE BEFORE INITIATION INTO THE NEW LIFE CHRIST

- 1. The person must first of all listen to the word of God
- 2. Confession of sin by word of mouth then follows after conviction and belief in the word may have heard.
- 3. The third step is baptism.

4. Determination on the part of the person to live a life worthy of the gospel of Jesus Christ while been a member of the church.
5. Confirmation by the Bishop (leader) of the church after the person is entitled to partake in the body and blood during Holy Communion.

ASSIGNMENT

Write on the processes of confirmation in your church.