

Synopsis of The Normal Christian Life by Watchman Nee

1. The Normal Christian Life

- Christ **died** instead of us for our **forgiveness**.
- Christ **lives** instead of us for our **deliverance**.
- The Cross secures our **forgiveness**, living within Christ secures our **victory**.

2. Sins and Sin

- We need **forgiveness** for Sins.
- We need **deliverance** from the power of Sin.
- **Forgiveness** leads to the realization that we are sinners and therefor we need **deliverance**.
- Forgiveness for what **we've done**. Deliverance from what **we are**.

3. "In Adam" and "In Christ"

- Being in Adam = being a sinner.
- We are in our Ancestors, without being in them, we would not exist, therefor their sins are past down to us.
- The Last Adam = the sum total of Humanity.
- The Second Man = Head of the New Race of Men
- If we are **in Christ** like we are **in Adam**, then **all** that is in Christ is in us.

4. The Life of Christ

- The Christian Life is nothing short of Christ's own life.
- **We are in**, therefor we need not try to **get in**.
- **Our** crucifixion is **never**, because **Christ's** has **already happened**.

5. Knowing and Reckoning

- **Reckoning** must be based on **knowledge** otherwise faith has no foundation.
- What you **know** as fact you naturally reckon to be true.

6. Presenting Ourselves to God

- Divine Order:

Knowing



Reckoning



Presenting

7. We “Cannot Please God”

- Being dead to sin = being dead to “Pleasing God”.
- Freedom from sin=freedom from the Law.
- Trying to “please God” by seeking ourselves is putting ourselves back under the law.
- Grace = God does **for** us.
- Law = We do **for** God.

8. The Flesh and The Spirit

- **Our** (not Christ’s within us) effort to please God puts our self in the “**Flesh**”.
- Until we flee sin and stop believing **we** alone can please God, we cannot live in the **Spirit**.

9. God’s word substantiated by Faith

- All our sins dealt have been dealt with by **The Blood**.
- We ourselves have been dealt with by **The Cross**.
i.e. Your ability to hear music has not effect on music itself, only on your ability to enjoy it.
- If you look for proof of Satan’s lies you’ll find it but if you refuse to believe only what God has said to be true you will not be fooled.

10. “Abide in Me”

- The “I in you” is the outcome of Abiding in him. It’s the Divine Order.
- Don’t try to get in, you **ARE** in, simply stay there.

11. God’s Solution of the Sin Question

- Because our old man is dead, “the body of sin” is “made of none effect”.
- Our “body of sin” is put out of operation.

12. The Work of the Cross

- You cannot live the “Normal Christian Life” until you begin to recognize the fullness of the work of the Lord Jesus on the Cross.
- Four Aspects of that work:
 - Our sins
 - Ourselves
 - Our wills
 - Our natural life
- The Christian life is **not** our living a life **like** Christ, or our **trying** to be Christlike, nor Christ giving **us** the power to live a life like His.
- **It is Christ Himself living his own life through us. “No longer I but Christ”.**