THE BELIEVER'S IDENTITY IN CHRIST

The 33 Positional Truths of the New Birth

Adult Bible Study / Discipleship Teaching Resource

Purpose of the Study

This study is built around the thirty-three positional truths presented in Born Into Victory. These truths are not progressive achievements but present realities for every believer in Christ. They describe what became true at the new birth because God placed the believer in Christ. The thirty-three truths are organized into four categories: Acceptance, Placement, Inheritance, and Enablement.

The Governing Distinction: Position and Condition

A believer's condition changes from day to day. Feelings fluctuate. Spiritual performance varies. Circumstances change. Position, however, rests upon the finished work of Christ. The purpose of positional truth is not to minimize growth or obedience, but to establish the foundation from which growth and obedience proceed. The Christian is not striving to earn a position in Christ; he or she is learning to live from the position God has already given.

The Four Categories

- Acceptance — Who I Am to God. Ten truths for the seasons when I feel unworthy, rejected, guilty, or like a spiritual failure.
- Placement — Where I Am in Christ. Thirteen truths for the seasons when I feel lost, purposeless, displaced, or uncertain about where I belong.
- Inheritance — What I Have in Christ. Five truths for the seasons when I feel unequipped or spiritually impoverished.
- Enablement — What I Can Now Do. Five truths for the seasons when I feel powerless against the pressures and struggles of life.

The 33 Positional Truths

Acceptance — Who I Am to God

1. I am accepted in Christ (Ephesians 1:6)

2. I am loved unconditionally (Romans 5:8)

3. I am completely forgiven (Ephesians 1:7)

4. I am justified (Romans 3:24)

5. I am reconciled (2 Corinthians 5:18)

6. I am redeemed (1 Peter 1:18–19)

7. I am no longer condemned (Romans 8:1)

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8. I am chosen (Ephesians 1:4)

9. I am adopted (Romans 8:15)

10. I am secure forever (John 10:28)

Placement — Where I Am in Christ

11. I am in Christ (1 Corinthians 1:30)

12. I am a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)

13. I am transferred from Adam (Colossians 1:13)

14. I am spiritually alive (Ephesians 2:5)

15. I am seated with Christ (Ephesians 2:6)

16. I am part of Christ's body (1 Corinthians 12:27)

17. Christ lives in me (Galatians 2:20)

18. I am united with Christ (1 Corinthians 6:17)

19. I am indwelt by the Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16)

20. I am free from sin (Romans 6:6)

21. I am under grace (Romans 6:14)

22. I belong to God (1 Peter 2:9)

23. I am identified with Christ (Colossians 2:12)

Inheritance — What I Have in Christ

24. I am complete (Colossians 2:10)

25. I possess every blessing (Ephesians 1:3)

26. I am a gift to Christ (John 6:37)

27. I am Christ's inheritance (Ephesians 1:18)

28. I am a joint heir (Romans 8:17)

Enablement — What I Can Now Do

29. I am free from the law (Romans 10:4)

30. I am free from my old identity (Romans 6:6)

31. I am united with the Trinity (John 14:23)

32. I have access to God (Ephesians 2:18)

33. I am sustained by God (Philippians 1:6)

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Teaching the Truths: Four Movements

1. Acceptance — Stop Striving to Be Accepted

The ten Blessings of Acceptance answer the believer's recurring fear that failure has changed God's verdict. Acceptance is grounded in Christ: accepted, loved, forgiven, justified, reconciled, redeemed, free from condemnation, chosen, adopted, and secure. These truths do not excuse sin; they establish the secure relationship in which confession, repentance, obedience, and growth can occur.

2. Placement — Know Where God Has Put You

The thirteen Blessings of Placement answer questions of identity, belonging, direction, and purpose. The believer is in Christ, a new creation, transferred from the old realm, spiritually alive, seated with Christ, part of His body, indwelt and joined to Him, free from Sin's dominion, under grace, belonging to God, and identified with Christ. The believer's location in God's saving plan is not determined by today's circumstances.

3. Inheritance — Draw From What You Already Possess

The five Blessings of Inheritance confront the feeling of being spiritually unequipped. In Christ the believer is complete, possesses every spiritual blessing, belongs to Christ as one given by the Father, participates in Christ's inheritance, and is a joint heir with Him. The practical question shifts from 'Do I have enough?' to 'What has God already provided in Christ for this moment?'

4. Enablement — Walk From God's Provision

The five Blessings of Enablement address powerlessness. The believer is free from law as a means of earning righteous standing, free from the old identity, united with the Trinity, granted direct access to God, and sustained by God's continuing care. Christian living therefore depends upon divine provision rather than self-generated sufficiency.

Practical Exercise: Match the Pressure to the Position

- When I feel unworthy or like a failure → return to Acceptance.
- When I feel lost or without purpose → return to Placement.
- When I feel unequipped for what I face → return to Inheritance.
- When I feel powerless against the pressure → return to Enablement.

Ask participants to identify one present pressure. Then identify the category—and finally the specific positional truth—that speaks most directly to it. The goal is not a motivational slogan. It is the deliberate renewal of the mind with what Scripture declares to be true.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it important to distinguish the believer's position from the believer's present condition?
2. Which of the ten Blessings of Acceptance most directly answers the fear of spiritual failure?
3. How do the thirteen Blessings of Placement answer questions of identity and belonging?
4. What is the difference between possessing an inheritance and living as though we possess it?
5. How do the five Blessings of Enablement protect Christian living from becoming self-reliant striving?
6. Which of the thirty-three truths do you most need to bring to mind in your present circumstances?
7. How does Romans 12:2 connect the knowledge of positional truth with transformation in daily life?

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Suggested 60-Minute Teaching Schedule

- 0–7 minutes — Introduction: position versus condition
- 7–20 minutes — The 10 Blessings of Acceptance
- 20–37 minutes — The 13 Blessings of Placement
- 37–45 minutes — The 5 Blessings of Inheritance
- 45–53 minutes — The 5 Blessings of Enablement
- 53–60 minutes — Match the pressure to the position; discussion and conclusion

Conclusion

The thirty-three positional truths form a framework for understanding the believer's finished position in Christ. They are not goals to achieve but realities to understand, believe, and live from. The end of striving is not the end of growth or obedience. It is the end of trying to earn a position God has already given. The believer is not trying to reach a place of victory; the believer is learning to live from one.

For Further Study

This lesson introduces the thirty-three positional truths developed in greater depth in David V. Lott's Born Into Victory. The book expands the four categories—Acceptance, Placement, Inheritance, and Enablement—and applies them to the pressures, doubts, and struggles of everyday Christian living.

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