

BRANCHES - Believers in Jesus the Christ
I am the Vine and You are the Branches – Being a Branch Abiding in Jesus
John 15

Believers in Jesus the Christ
Redeemed, Restored, Reconciled
Ambassadors of Christ for God
New Creations in Christ
Compassionate Caring Community
Humble Disciples serving others
Engaged pilgrims in this world
Sent to proclaim the Good News of Jesus

B We are first and foremost Believers in Jesus the Christ. This means that we have accepted him as the Lord of our lives. We have placed our faith in his death and resurrection. We have asked for his forgiveness of our sins, and we have surrendered our lives to his leading. While this is a personal decision it is lived out for God in this community and in front of the world. Believing is not just a mental agreement but is from the core of our being and is expressed by calling/confessing Jesus as the Lord of our lives and pledging allegiance to Him. It is allowing a heart/mind decision to let the Holy Spirit transform our old patterns of living into new life in, through and under Jesus the Christ.

Scripture to consider and reflect on

Leviticus 18:5, Isaiah 28:16, Jeremiah 31:33, Ezekiel 11:19, 18:3, 36:26, Joel 2:28-32, Matthew 10:32,
Romans 10:9-13,
1 Corinthians 15:1-4, Ephesians 2:1-10, Hebrews 8:10, 10:16

We are Believers in Jesus the Christ

Mark 1:14-15 14 Later on, after John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God's Good News. 15 "The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! **Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!**"

Jesus "the" Christ

Christ χριστός (christós) = the Anointed One

"Messiah" mashiach (מָשִׁיחַ) = "the anointed one".

Jesus the Messiah of the Jews - Jesus the Messiah of the World

Repent and Believe

"repent" is metanoia (μετάνοια),

means "a change of mind" and "a change of direction". It is a radical transformation in one's thinking and direction, moving from a previous mindset to a new one, accompanied by a desire to amend one's life and actions.

"to believe" is πιστεύω (pisteuo).

This verb implies not just acknowledging a fact, but rather placing faith in, trusting in, or relying upon something or someone. It is having an Allegiance to another, Jesus.

What does it mean to be a "Believer in Jesus the Christ?"

This means that we have

- accepted him as the Lord of our lives.
 - placed our faith in his death and resurrection.
 - asked for his forgiveness of our sins.
 - surrendered our lives to his leading.
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- It is a personal decision lived out for God in this community
 - and in front of the world.
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- It is a Belief/Faith/Allegiance that stays true and strong in Good times and Bad.
 - It is Anchored in the Solid Goodness of God shown to us in Jesus the Christ

Ultimately, what/Who do you Believe In?
1 Timothy 1:5-12