

A Sound Understanding of Christ as the Foundation of the Church

The centrality of Christ is fundamental to our understanding of the gospel and the life of the church. A clear grasp of the believer's new identity in Christ is essential, setting the individual free from guilt, shame, the power of sin and legalistic endeavor. Union with Christ is at the heart of all our gospel work.

Terry Virgo is based at Kings Church Kingston, London, UK and is the founder of Newfrontiers, a worldwide family of churches together on a mission to establish the kingdom of God by restoring the church, making disciples, training leaders, and planting churches. Newfrontiers serves over 1,500 churches across 70 countries. A well-known Bible teacher, Terry speaks at conferences internationally and hosted the annual Together on a Mission conference in the UK, which drew thousands of delegates from around the world. Terry has written several books, including *The Spirit-Filled Church*, *God's Lavish Grace*, *God Knows You're Human*, *The Tide is Turning*, and *No Well-Worn Paths*.

I. Understanding Christ objectively

- A. The one who, though he was God, became fully man
- B. The one who has perfectly revealed the father
- C. The one who bore our guilt on the cross
- D. The one who rose triumphant over death
- E. The one who was ascended to God's right hand with all authority
- F. The one who is now Lord of all
- G. The one who is king in his ever growing Kingdom

II. Knowing Christ experientially

A. As our source of life

1. Our true vine
2. Our living bread etc.

B. The one who has justified us with his gift of righteousness

1. He is our spotless righteousness
2. There is therefore now no condemnation

C. The one who has freed us from law and established a covenant of grace

1. We are not under law but under grace.

D. The one who has united us with himself in co-crucifixion, co-burial, co-resurrection and co-ascension

E. The one who has made us part of his body here on earth

1. A functioning many-membered body with diverse gifts.

III. The one who accompanies and empowers us on our mission through the Holy Spirit