

Come as you are but don't stay that way - 1
January 7th 2006

John 9: 39-41

Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

⁴⁰ *Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?"*

⁴¹ *Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."*

Rom 3:10 *There is no one righteous, not even one;*

Rom 3:22-23

... There is no difference,²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Eccl 7:20

There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins.

Gal 3:22

But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin,

Eph 2:3

All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature

James 3:1

We all stumble in many ways.

Rom 3:22-24

This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference,²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,²⁴ and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

1 Tim 1:15-17 *Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners — of whom I am the worst.*

¹⁶ But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life.

2 Cor 5:18-21

All these new things are from God who brought us back to himself through what Christ Jesus did. And God has given us the privilege of urging everyone to come into his favor and be reconciled to him.

¹⁹ For God was in Christ, restoring the world to himself, no longer counting men's sins against them but blotting them out. This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others. ²⁰ We are Christ's ambassadors. God is using us to speak to you: we beg you, as though Christ himself were here pleading with you, receive the love he offers you-be reconciled to God. ²¹ For God took the sinless Christ and poured into him our sins. Then, in exchange, he poured God's goodness into us! (TLB)

Romans 12:2 "Be transformed by the renewing of your minds"

John 15:4-5

"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

NASB

Practices that promote spiritual growth:

1. Regular Personal Inventory.

Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.