

## SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF A TRUE CHRISTIAN

Acts 11:26

(Not entirely original with me)

**Introduction:** A church member, sings in the choir, a greeter at the door, an usher, a teacher, a record keeper, a nursery worker, a pianist or an organist, a deacon/elder, anybody associated with a Church is a Christian. Sadly, not everybody associated with a Church is really a true Christian. They may appear to be like others who are indeed real, true Christians in the way they talk and that they attend services and that they do this or that in the Church, but a real, true Christian has certain characteristics that "false" Christians just don't have.

### I. A TRUE, REAL CHRISTIAN IS A PERSON THAT IS REALLY SAVED (*Acts 2:47*)

1. A true, genuine, real salvation experience involves certain things.
  - There is the conviction of sin. (*John 16:7-9*)
  - There is genuine repentance toward God. (*Acts 20:21; Matthew 21:28-29*)
  - There is faith (not just talk) in the Lord Jesus Christ. (*Mark 1:15; Ephesians 2:8-9*)

### II. A TRUE, REAL CHRISTIAN IS SURE THAT HE/SHE IS SAVED

1. He/she knows personally in whom he/she has believed. (*2 Timothy 1:12*)
2. He/she knows for sure that he/she has been given eternal life. (*1 John 5:13*)
3. He/she knows without a doubt that God lives within him/her. (*1 John 3:24*)
4. He/she knows all these things because he/she also loves his/her fellow believers in Jesus for they are a family. (*1 John 3:14; 4:20*)

### III. A TRUE, REAL CHRISTIAN IS TOTALLY SURRENDERED TO GOD (*Romans 6:13*)

1. His/her physical body is surrendered totally to God. (*Romans 12:1*)
2. His/her mind, thoughts, will are yielded without reserve to God. (*Romans 6:16*)
3. He/she is completely guided, controlled by the Holy Spirit. (*Ephesians 5:18*)

### CONCLUSION:

1. When Jesus comes back for His Church, many are going to be left behind who presumed that they were Christians because they belonged to a Church or did this or that or were born into this or that family which had a religious heritage.
2. A true, real Christian has had a personal, deliberate, willing encounter with the God's Word, the Holy Spirit and the Lord Jesus Christ and has surrendered him/herself totally to the Lord.
3. So, are YOU a genuine, true, real Christian? Do you know without a doubt that you are?