

PRACTICING YOUR POSITION

Our “position” with regard to God refers to whether we enjoy his favor, or we are objects of his wrath. Apart from Christ, we remain objects of wrath (Eph 2:3). We are dead in our trespasses and sins (Eph 2:1). We are excluded from the presence of God (Ps 76:7). But because Christ has atoned for our sins (Rom 3:25; Heb 2:17) and reconciled us to God (2Cor 5:18), and because God imputes Christ’s righteousness to us to satisfy the law (Rom 4:6), our position has been forever changed. We are now heirs and co-heirs with Christ (Rom 8:17), dearly loved children of the Most High (Eph 5:1; Lk 6:35). We may approach the throne of God with confidence (Heb 4:16; 10:19). Why? Because in Christ, and in Christ alone, we are perfect. – WHG

“In Christ we are perfect *positionally*; but in *practice* we fall short of perfection. The Christian life is the experience of becoming in practice what we are in position. This study sheet shows that for every positional truth in the New Testament there is a corresponding practice we are enjoined to follow.”¹ – John MacArthur

	POSITION <i>What and Who we are in Christ</i> 2Pet 1:3, 4; Eph 1:3; Col 2:10; Heb 10:14	PRACTICE <i>Acting like what we are</i> 2Pet 1:5-8; Eph 4:1; 2Tim 3:17; Col 4:12; Heb 13:20, 21
1.	<i>Alive to God</i> Eph 2:4-5 ; 1Jn 4:9; John 11:25-26, 14:19; Acts 17:28	<i>Live the life</i> Rom 6:11-12 ; Phil 1:20-22; Gal 2:20; Titus 2:12
2.	<i>Dead to Sin</i> Rom 6:1-2	<i>Give Sin No Place</i> Col 3:5 ; Rom 6:17-18; Col 3:1-2
3.	<i>Forgiven</i> Eph 1:7 ; 1Jn 1:9, 2:12; Col 1:13-14; 2:13	<i>Forgive</i> Eph 4:32 ; Matt 6:12; Lk 17:3-4
4.	<i>Righteous</i> Rom 4:4-5 ; Rom 1:17; 3:21-22; 5:17	<i>Pursue righteousness</i> 2Tim 2:22 ; 1Jn 3:6-7; 3:10
5.	<i>Child of God</i> Gal 3:26 ; Rom 8:16; Eph 1:5	<i>Act like God’s child</i> 1Pet 1:14-15 ; Eph 1:4; 5:1
6.	<i>God’s possession – apple of his eye</i> Tit 2:14 ; Deut 32:10; Zec 2:8	<i>Yield to God</i> Eph 2:10 ; 2Tim 2:19
7.	<i>Heirs of God – an Inheritance</i> Rom 8:16-17 ; Col 1:12; Eph 1:11; 1Pet 1:3-4	<i>Spend your inheritance</i> Matt 6:19-21 ; 2Cor 5:9-10; 2Jn 8; 1Cor 3:12-15; Phil 3:10-12
8.	<i>Blessed with spiritual blessings</i> 2Pet 1:3 ; Eph 1:3-4; Eph 2:6-7	<i>Reign with God’s blessings</i> 2Pet 1:4 ; Col 3:1-2; Rom 5:17
9.	<i>Citizen of heaven (not of this world)</i> Phil 3:20 ; John 17:14-16; 1Jn 5:4-5	<i>Sojourn in the World</i> 1Pet 2:11 ; 1Jn 2:15-16; Col 3:1-2; Jm 1:27
10.	<i>Servant of God</i> Rom 6:22 ; 1Cor 7:22-23	<i>Serve God</i> Col 3:23-24 ; Rom 6:17-19
11.	<i>New life – a new creation</i> 2Cor 5:17 ; Gal 6:15	<i>Walk in Newness</i> Rom 6:4 ; 7:6

¹ MacArthur, John Jr., *The Church, The Body of Christ* (Zondervan, Grand Rapids MI, 1973, 1978), pp. 61-63. Modified and emended in part by Wm H. Gross Colorado Springs CO Jan 2007.

	POSITION <i>What and Who we are in Christ</i>	PRACTICE <i>Acting like what we are</i>
12.	<i>Not Under the Law</i> Rom 6:14 ; 7:6	<i>Keep the law</i> Rom 3:31 ; Rom 6:15; 8:5; Gal 5:1
13.	<i>Crucified to the world</i> Gal 6:14 ; 1:4	<i>Avoid worldly things</i> James 4:4 ; 1Jn 2:15-16; Rom 12:2
14.	<i>Light to the world</i> 1Thess 5:5 ; Matt 5:14	<i>Walk as child of light</i> Eph 5:8-9 ; Matt 5:15-16
15.	<i>Victorious over Satan</i> Rev 12:10 ;	<i>Claim your victory</i> Eph 6:11-12 ; James 4:7
16.	<i>Cleansed</i> John 15:3 ; 1Jn 1:9	<i>Cleanse yourself</i> 2Cor 7:1 ; Phil 4:8; James 4:8
17.	<i>Holy and Blameless</i> Col 1:21-22 ; Eph 1:4; 5:25-27	<i>Be Holy and Blameless</i> 2Pet 3:13-14 ; 1Pet 1:15-16;
18.	<i>Free</i> John 8:31-32,35-36	<i>Enjoy your freedom</i> Gal 5:13 ; 5:1; 1Pet 2:16
19.	<i>In Christ</i> Eph 1:4 ; 1:13; 2:4-6, 13;	<i>Remain in Christ</i> Jn 15:4,10 ; 1Jn 2:28;
20.	<i>Secure in Christ</i> John 10:28-29 ; 1Pet 1:3-5; 2Cor 1:22; Rom 8:38-39	<i>Walk Securely</i> Rom 8:35,37 ; 2Pet 1:10
21.	<i>At Peace</i> John 14:27 ; Rom 5:1; 14:17; Acts 10:36	<i>Let peace rule</i> Col 3:15 ; 2Tim 2:22; 1Thess 5:13
22.	<i>One in Christ</i> Eph 4:4-6 ; 1:9-10; 1Cor 12:12-13; Gal 3:28	<i>Preserve Unity</i> Eph 4:1-3 ; John 17:20-21
23.	<i>In Grace</i> Rom 5:1-2 ; Rom 3:23-24	<i>Grow in Grace</i> 2Pet 3:18 ; Col 4:6
24.	<i>In fellowship</i> 1Jn 1:3	<i>Preserve fellowship</i> 1Jn 1:5-7 ; 1Cor 10:20-21; Eph 5:11
25.	<i>Joyful</i> Rom 14:17 ; 1Pet 1:8; Rom 5:2;	<i>Be Joyful</i> Phil 4:4 ; 1Jn 1:4; John 15:11, 16:24
26.	<i>Spirit indwelt and led</i> Rom 8:9,14 ; 1Cor 6:19-20	<i>Yield to the Spirit</i> Gal 5:24-25 ; Eph 5:18; 4:30; 1Thess 5:19
27.	<i>Spirit-gifted</i> 1Cor 12:4-7 ; Rom 12:5-6	<i>Use your giftedness</i> 1Pet 4:10 ; Rom 12:6
28.	<i>Empowered for service</i> 2Tim 1:7 ; Acts 1:8; Eph 3:20; 2Cor 4:7	<i>Claim God's power</i> 1Cor 2:3-5 ; Phil 3:10; Eph 6:10; Phil 4:13
29.	<i>Loved</i> 1Jn 4:9-10	<i>Love!</i> 1Jn 4:11-12 ; John 13:34-35; 1Jn 3:18
30.	<i>Saved</i> 2Tim 1:8-9 ; Eph. 2:8-9; Tit 3:5	<i>Outwork your salvation</i> Phil 2:12-13