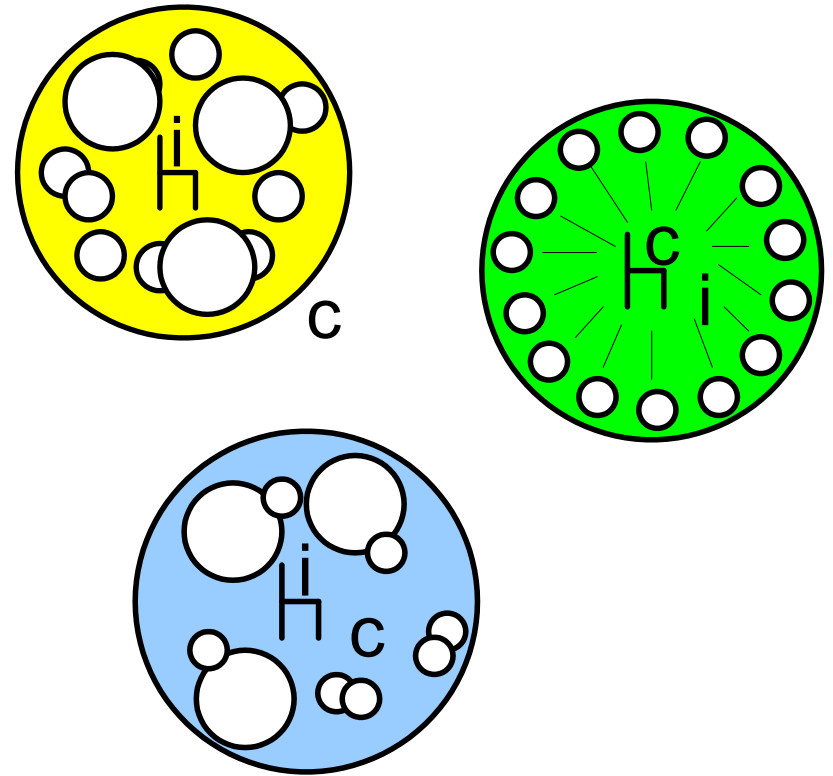
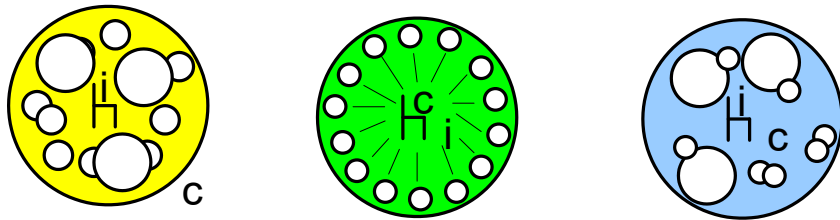


THE THREE CIRCLES



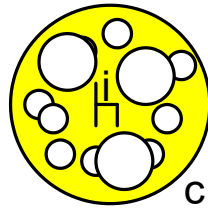
*AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE
LIVES OF THREE PEOPLE*

THE THREE CIRCLES



CIRCLE ONE -THE UNSAVED WHO IS FAR FROM GOD

The first circle is represented as a life full of commotion and chaos. The chair in the middle is a symbol of the control room of our life. It is a throne that runs and rules our life, and “I” sit on that throne as King of my life. The “C” on the outside of the circle represents Christ. He is on the outside of an unsaved person’s life. As long as the “I” is on the throne of our life there will be no peace.



***They have sinned-- Romans 3:23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

***They do not have the Spirit--1 Cor 2:14** The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

***They are without Christ --Ephesians 2:12** That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

***They have no hope--1 Thess 4:13** Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.

***Realize that your sin put Christ on the cross--1 Corinthians 15:3** For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
2Co 5:21 For he hath made him *to* be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him

***Don’t sin but if you do, seek your Advocate--1 John 2:1** My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

***Accept by faith that you are a new creation in Christ--2 Corinthians 5:17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

1 Corinthians 10:14 Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry.

1 Timothy 6:11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

2 Timothy 2:22 Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

***Resist the Devil and he will flee--James 4:7** Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

***Realize that you are weak--Mark 14:38** Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

***Don’t even think about how to gratify the flesh--Romans 13:14** Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

***Take the opportunity to escape when you are tempted--1 Corinthians 10:13** No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

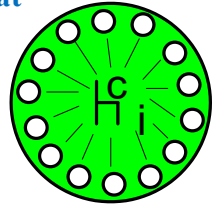
***Don’t feed it-- Romans 8:5** Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

***Don’t be around those who do evil--1 Corinthians 15:33** Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.”

*** They are under God’s wrath-- John 3:36** Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on them.

CIRCLE TWO- THE BELIEVER WHO IS SAVED

The second circle is different from the first one that symbolizes the unsaved person. This circle shows “I” off the throne of his life and Christ, the “C” on the throne of his life. This person has trusted in Christ and received eternal salvation. Christ is no longer on the outside of his life but now dwells in his life. The circles inside this person’s life symbolize order and peace and being controlled by Christ who now is on the throne and is ruling and running his life. Of course, no believer is perfect, and there will always be problems to deal with, but the symbol demonstrates that Jesus knows best how to run our life.



***They have the gift of God-- Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

***They are born again-- John 3:3** Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

***They are saved-- Acts 16:31** They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”

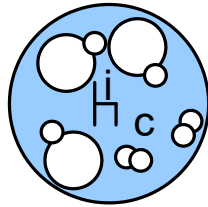
***They have eternal life-- John 3:15** that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

***They have come to the Father--John 6:37** All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

*** They are children of God-- John 1:11-12** He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—

CIRCLE THREE: THE CARNAL CHRISTIAN

The third circle is at first glance similar to the first circle which symbolizes the unsaved person. As one looks at it, they will notice that although there is disorder and chaos, Christ, “C” is still in the life. However, this time He is not on the throne and the person is back on the throne of his life acting a lot like he did before he became a Christian. This circle symbolizes the Carnal Believer. That is a believer who is living in disobedience to the Lord and his Word. He is like the Prodigal Son in Luke 15: 13 who left his father’s house and lived a life of sin. The Prodigal Son always remained a son, but he was far from his father’s love and fellowship. Some believers, for a time, will act like that person. It grieves the heart of God that His child would choose to live that way. But we remember that Jesus said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you”, which was said to believers. The God of love will draw this person back to Himself and has many ways to cause the Carnal Christian to return to His fellowship.



***The Carnal Christian is far away but still is a son -Luke 15:13**
“And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living

***They are carnal, immature--1 Corinthians 3:1,3** And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. For ye are yet carnal: for

***They let the peace of Christ rule their hearts-- Colossians 3:15** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

***They do good works-- Titus 2:14** Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Titus 3:8 *This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.*

Titus 3:14 And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

***They are good servants--Mark 10:43-45** Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

AS A BELIEVER, WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SIN?

***Confess It to The Lord, He will forgive--1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

***Forsake it and leave it--2 Timothy 2:19** Nevertheless, God’s solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: “The Lord knows those who are his,” and, “Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.”

***Run from it, flee from it, and don’t turn back--1 Corinthians 6:18** Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits

***They do the will of God-- 1 John 2:17** The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

***They have lives of Prayer-1 Corinthians 14:15** So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray continually,

1 Timothy 2:8 Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing.

James 5:13 Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.

Ephesians 6:18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people

***They are led by the Spirit-- Galatians 5:18** But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

***They are filled with the fruit of the Spirit--Galatians 5:22,23** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

***They have put on the whole armor of God--Ephesians 6:13-18** Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

***They are sinning- 1 Corinthians 11:30** That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.

***They quarrel-- 1 Corinthians 1:11-12** My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you

WHAT DOES A HEALTHY CHRISTIAN LOOK LIKE?

***They have given themselves completely to God-- Romans 12:1-2** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

***They are a new creation in Christ—2 Cor 5:17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

***Christ is at home in their hearts--Ephesians 3:17** so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

***The peace of God is in their hearts--Colossians 3:15** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

***They are obedient to the Word of God--John 14:23** Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

1 John 2:5 But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him:

***They practice love--1 John 4:7** Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

***They love other Christians-- 1 John 3:14** We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death.

1 John 4:11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 2:10 Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble.

***They do not love the world - 1 John 2:15** Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them.

***They do what is right-- 1 John 2:29** If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him.

***They have the hope of Christ's second coming-- 1 John 3:3** All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

***They lay their lives down for others-- 1 John 3:16** This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

***They do not continue to sin as a practice--1 John 5:18** We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the One who was born of God keeps them safe, and the evil one cannot harm them.

***They meet with other believers--Hebrews 10:25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but

encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

***They preach the Gospel--Romans 10:15** And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

***They seek the kingdom of God--Matthew 6:33** But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

***They use the gifts God has given to them-- Romans 12:6-8** We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

***They give of their finances to the Lord's work-- 1 Corinthians 16:2** On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.
2 Corinthians 9:7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

***They have given their bodies to Christ—Romans 12:1** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

***They are willing to suffer for good--1 Peter 3:17** For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.