

church of god in christ convocation 2014 Manual

Church of God in Christ Convocation 2014 was a significant event in the religious and spiritual calendar of the Church of God in Christ (COGIC), one of the largest and most influential Pentecostal denominations in the United States. Held annually, the convocation serves as a vital gathering for worship, leadership training, doctrinal reaffirmation, and community building among thousands of church members, clergy, and visitors from around the world. The 2014 edition of this grand assembly marked a pivotal moment, featuring inspiring sermons, impactful workshops, and historic moments that continue to resonate within the COGIC community today.

Overview of the Church of God in Christ Convocation 2014

The COGIC Convocation 2014 took place in a vibrant atmosphere of faith and fellowship, attracting an estimated tens of thousands of attendees. This event was not only a spiritual revival but also an opportunity for strategic planning and leadership development. The convocation typically spans several days, often including:

- Main worship services led by prominent church leaders and pastors
- Workshops and seminars on theological, pastoral, and community issues
- Business meetings for church governance
- Youth and women's ministries sessions
- Cultural events celebrating African-American heritage and gospel music

The 2014 convocation was held in Memphis, Tennessee, a city with deep historical ties to gospel music and African-American religious history, further enriching the event's significance.

Key Highlights of the 2014 Convocation

Inspirational Worship Services

One of the core components of the COGIC Convocation is the worship experience. In 2014, the services were characterized by:

- Powerful sermons delivered by church leaders such as Bishop Charles E. Blake, the Presiding Bishop of COGIC

- Soul-stirring gospel music performances by renowned gospel artists
- Spirit-filled prayer sessions that fostered unity and spiritual renewal

Leadership and Doctrine Workshops

The convocation provided an excellent platform for leadership development. Workshops covered topics such as:

- Effective pastoral leadership
- Church growth strategies
- Youth engagement and mentoring
- Addressing social issues through faith-based initiatives

Notable Speakers and Preachers

The event featured a lineup of influential speakers, including:

- Bishop Charles E. Blake
- Bishop J. Drew Sheard
- Other distinguished pastors and church elders

Their messages focused on revival, community service, and strengthening faith in challenging times.

Recognition and Awards

The 2014 convocation also included ceremonies recognizing outstanding contributions of church members and leaders. These awards highlighted the dedication to spiritual growth, community service, and evangelism.

Significance of the 2014 Convocation in the COGIC Community

Spiritual Renewal and Revival

The convocation serves as a catalyst for spiritual renewal among attendees. The 2014 gathering emphasized the importance of revival in personal faith and communal worship, inspiring members to live out their faith more passionately.

Strengthening Church Leadership

With various workshops and seminars, the event played a crucial role in equipping church leaders with new insights and strategies to lead their congregations effectively.

Cultural and Community Impact

Held in Memphis, the 2014 convocation celebrated gospel music, cultural heritage, and community activism. It reinforced COGIC's role as a pillar of African-American religious life and social justice.

Impact and Legacy of Church of God in Christ Convocation 2014

Growth in Membership and Outreach

Following the 2014 convocation, many churches reported increased enthusiasm and engagement in outreach programs, youth ministries, and community service initiatives.

Enhanced Leadership Development

The leadership training provided during the event contributed to more dynamic and effective pastoral leadership across COGIC churches nationwide.

Continued Influence of Gospel Music

The gospel music performances during the convocation helped propel the careers of emerging artists and reinforced gospel music's role in worship and cultural identity.

Why Attend the Church of God in Christ Convocation?

For members and interested individuals, attending the COGIC Convocation offers numerous benefits:

- Deepening spiritual understanding and renewal
- Networking with church leaders and community activists
- Participating in impactful worship and cultural events
- Gaining insights into church growth and leadership strategies
- Celebrating gospel music and African-American heritage

Future Outlook and Continued Relevance

The success of the 2014 convocation set a precedent for future gatherings, emphasizing the importance of faith, community, and leadership. As the church continues to evolve, convocations

remain a vital space for inspiration, education, and cultural celebration.

Conclusion

The Church of God in Christ Convocation 2014 was more than just a religious event; it was a movement that invigorated faith, empowered leaders, and celebrated cultural heritage. Its impact continues to resonate within the COGIC community and beyond, inspiring future generations to carry forward the legacy of revival, leadership, and gospel music. Whether you are a member of the church or interested in its rich history and influence, understanding the significance of the 2014 convocation provides valuable insight into the ongoing growth and vitality of the Church of God in Christ.

Church of God in Christ Convocation 2014

The Church of God in Christ (COGIC) Convocation 2014 stands out as a pivotal event within the landscape of Pentecostal and African-American Christian communities. As one of the largest and most influential denominations in the United States, COGIC's annual convocation serves not only as a spiritual gathering but also as a platform for leadership development, doctrinal reinforcement, and cultural celebration. This in-depth review explores the various facets of the 2014 event, highlighting its significance, structure, impact, and key moments to provide a comprehensive understanding of this landmark gathering.

Overview of the Church of God in Christ Convocation 2014

The 2014 Convocation of the Church of God in Christ was held from November 2 to November 13, 2014, at the America's Center Convention Complex in St. Louis, Missouri. This event drew thousands of clergy, lay members, musicians, and community leaders from across the globe. It served as a convergence point for spiritual renewal, theological discourse, and organizational strategy, reaffirming COGIC's foundational principles and expanding its influence in the 21st century.

Key Highlights:

- Attendance: Estimated at over 70,000 attendees, including delegates and visitors.
- Theme: "A New Era of Excellence and Evangelism" emphasizing renewal, growth, and outreach.
- Major Events: Worship services, leadership seminars, youth sessions, workshops, and cultural programs.
- Notable Participants: Bishop Charles E. Blake (Presiding Bishop), other senior bishops, prominent gospel artists, and community activists.

Structural Breakdown of the Convocation

The 2014 COGIC Convocation was meticulously organized to cater to diverse interests and needs within the church community. Its structure combined spiritual, educational, and organizational components designed to foster growth and unity.

Worship Services and Spirit-Led Celebrations

The cornerstone of the convocation was its series of worship services, which featured dynamic preaching, choir performances, and anointed prayer sessions. These services reinforced doctrinal teachings while fostering a sense of communal worship.

- Sunday Morning Worship: The opening service set a tone of celebration, with Bishop Blake delivering a powerful sermon titled "Stepping Into a New Era."
- Nightly Revival Services: Each evening featured guest evangelists, gospel artists, and testimonies.
- Special Holy Spirit Services: Emphasized Pentecostal worship, with anointing, speaking in tongues, and healing prayers.

Leadership and Educational Seminars

To equip pastors and lay leaders, the convocation hosted a series of seminars, workshops, and plenary sessions focusing on:

- Church Growth Strategies: Techniques for expanding congregations and community outreach.
- Leadership Development: Training sessions for emerging and established leaders.
- Cultural Engagement: Addressing issues such as social justice, education, and health disparities.
- Technology and Media: Leveraging digital platforms for ministry expansion.

Some notable seminars included "Effective Pastoral Leadership," "Innovative Evangelism," and "Building Multicultural Churches."

Youth and Ministerial Tracks

Understanding the importance of nurturing future generations, COGIC dedicated specific tracks to youth and young ministers:

- Youth Summit: Focused on youth empowerment, leadership, and social issues affecting young believers.
- Minister's Conference: Provided advanced training for ministers, deacons, and church administrators.

These tracks fostered mentorship, networking, and spiritual development among emerging church leaders.

Cultural and Community Engagement

As a church rooted in African-American history and culture, COGIC's convocation incorporated:

- Cultural Arts Presentations: Gospel music, dance, and drama celebrating heritage.
- Community Outreach Initiatives: Partnering with local agencies for health screenings, job fairs, and social services.
- Legacy Recognitions: Honoring pioneering leaders and organizations within the denomination.

Key Themes and Messages of Convocation 2014

The overarching message of the 2014 convocation was centered around renewal, excellence, and evangelism. Bishop Charles E. Blake emphasized the importance of adapting to changing societal contexts while remaining rooted in the gospel.

Main Themes:

- A New Era of Evangelism: Encouraging churches to innovate outreach methods, especially through media and social platforms.
- Excellence in Ministry: Promoting professional development, quality worship, and organizational integrity.
- Unity and Diversity: Fostering inclusivity within the church body, embracing multiculturalism, and addressing social issues.

Key Messages Delivered:

- The church must be proactive in addressing societal challenges such as poverty, violence, and education.
- Leaders should inspire their congregations to live out the gospel practically.
- The importance of spiritual renewal and personal holiness as foundations for effective ministry.

Impact and Significance of the 2014 Convocation

The 2014 convocation was more than a series of worship services; it was a catalyst for organizational and spiritual growth within COGIC.

Spiritual Revival and Renewed Commitment

Attendees reported a renewed sense of purpose and spiritual fervor. The sermons and prayer sessions reinforced a collective commitment to evangelism and personal holiness. Many participants testified to life-changing encounters during the altar calls, healings, and prophetic ministrations.

Leadership Development and Organizational Growth

The seminars equipped pastors and church leaders with practical tools for expanding their ministries. The emphasis on leadership excellence translated into increased organizational effectiveness in local churches.

Media and Cultural Outreach

The conference highlighted the importance of digital media in modern ministry, encouraging churches to adopt new technologies for outreach and engagement. Cultural presentations fostered pride and unity, strengthening the church's identity and community bonds.

Community and Social Impact

The outreach initiatives demonstrated COGIC's commitment to societal transformation. The 2014 convocation underscored the church's role as a leader in social justice and community upliftment.

Notable Participants and Performers

The event featured a host of distinguished speakers and performers, including:

- Bishop Charles E. Blake: The presiding bishop and keynote speaker.
- Gospel Artists: Donnie McClurkin, Tasha Cobbs, Marvin Sapp, and others who led worship and concert sessions.
- Guest Speakers: Renowned pastors, scholars, and civic leaders addressing various social and spiritual issues.
- Cultural Performers: Dance troupes, drama ministries, and choirs that showcased African-American culture.

Legacy and Future Outlook

The 2014 Convocation set a strategic tone for the future of COGIC. It emphasized embracing innovation without compromising doctrinal integrity. The event fostered a sense of unity and purpose among its members, inspiring continued growth and societal engagement.

Long-term Impacts:

- Increased adoption of digital platforms for ministry.
- Greater emphasis on multicultural outreach.
- Strengthening of youth and young adult ministries.
- Enhanced focus on social justice issues aligned with gospel teachings.

The themes and initiatives introduced in 2014 continue to influence COGIC's direction, emphasizing that the church is committed to being 'a new era of excellence and evangelism.'

Conclusion

The Church of God in Christ Convocation 2014 was a landmark event that successfully blended spiritual revival, leadership development, cultural celebration, and social engagement. Its comprehensive approach reaffirmed COGIC's position as a dynamic and resilient denomination poised for future growth. Attendees left inspired and equipped to carry the gospel forward in their communities, embodying the conference's call for a 'New Era of Excellence and Evangelism.' As a strategic and spiritual milestone, the 2014 convocation remains a defining chapter in the ongoing narrative of COGIC's legacy and influence.

Question What was the main theme of the Church of God in Christ Convocation 2014? The main theme of the 2014 Convocation was 'Celebrating Our Heritage, Embracing Our Future,' focusing on honoring the church's legacy while looking forward to future growth and spiritual renewal. **Where was the Church of God in Christ Convocation 2014 held?** The 2014 Convocation took place at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia. **Who were the keynote speakers at the 2014 COGIC Convocation?** Prominent speakers included Bishop Charles E. Blake, Presiding Bishop of COGIC, along with other notable pastors and church leaders who addressed the congregation on various spiritual and leadership topics. **What significant events or activities took place during the 2014 Convocation?** The event featured worship services, ordination ceremonies, leadership workshops, youth sessions, and the election of new church officers, all aimed at spiritual growth and organizational development. **How did the 2014 Convocation impact the growth of the Church of God in Christ?** The convocation served as a platform to inspire renewed commitment among members, foster leadership development, and strengthen community outreach efforts, thereby contributing to the church's ongoing growth. **Were there any notable cultural or musical**

performances at the 2014 Convocation? Yes, the event featured performances by renowned gospel artists and choirs, highlighting the rich musical heritage of COGIC and enhancing the worship experience. How can attendees of the 2014 Convocation stay connected after the event? Attendees were encouraged to join church networks, participate in local church activities, and follow COGIC's official social media channels for updates and ongoing engagement. What role did youth and young adults play in the 2014 Convocation? Youth and young adults were actively involved through specialized sessions, leadership training, and youth-focused worship services, emphasizing their importance in the church's future. Is there any recorded footage or resources from the 2014 COGIC Convocation available online? Yes, select sessions and sermons from the 2014 Convocation are available on the official COGIC website and YouTube channel for those interested in revisiting the event or sharing with others.

Related keywords: Church of God in Christ, COGIC Convocation 2014, COGIC Annual Convention, COGIC Conference 2014, Christian Religious Event, Pentecostal Convention, COGIC Leadership Conference, Gospel Event 2014, Religious Gathering, COGIC Worship Services

not i but christ

not i but christ: Embracing the Supremacy of Christ in Our Lives

In a world often centered around personal achievement and individual identity, the biblical principle of "not I but Christ" reminds believers to shift their focus from self to Savior. This phrase encapsulates the core message of humility, surrender, and the supremacy of Jesus Christ in every aspect of life. Understanding and applying this principle can transform how we view ourselves, others, and our purpose, fostering a deeper relationship with Christ and aligning our lives with God's divine plan.

Understanding the Meaning of "Not I but Christ"

Biblical Foundation

The phrase "not I but Christ" is rooted in the teachings of the Apostle Paul, particularly in Galatians 2:20, which states:

- "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me."

This verse emphasizes the believer's death to self and the life of Christ within, highlighting a spiritual

transformation that prioritizes Christ's lordship over personal desires.

Historical and Spiritual Significance

Historically, this phrase was popularized during the 19th-century holiness movement, emphasizing sanctification and complete surrender to God. Spiritually, it calls for believers to:

- Recognize Christ as the central figure in their faith and actions
- Humble themselves beneath God's mighty hand
- Live a life that reflects Christ's character and teachings

The Core Principles of "Not I but Christ"

Humility and Surrender

At its core, "not I but Christ" demands humility—a recognition that our own strength and wisdom are insufficient without Christ. It calls for surrendering personal ambitions and desires, trusting that God's plan is better.

Crucifixion of Self

This principle involves a daily death to self:

- Letting go of ego-driven pursuits
- Rejecting pride and self-sufficiency
- Embracing God's sovereignty in our lives

Living Through Christ

Living "not I but Christ" entails:

- Allowing Christ's love and righteousness to guide our actions
- Reflecting His character in our interactions
- Prioritizing God's kingdom above personal gains

Practical Applications of "Not I but Christ"

In Personal Life

Applying this principle involves intentional daily choices:

- Starting the day with prayer, surrendering to God's will
- Practicing humility in relationships and decisions
- Serving others selflessly, following Christ's example

In Church and Community

Within the church and community, "not I but Christ" encourages:

- Leading with humility and love
- Prioritizing unity over personal recognition
- Engaging in service projects that uplift others

In Challenges and Suffering

During difficult times:

- Trust in God's sovereignty rather than self-reliance
- Endure hardships with faith, knowing Christ's strength sustains
- Use trials as opportunities to grow closer to Christ

Benefits of Embracing "Not I but Christ"

Deeper Relationship with Jesus

Surrendering self and focusing on Christ deepens intimacy with Him, fostering spiritual growth and maturity.

Enhanced Humility and Compassion

Living with a Christ-centered perspective cultivates humility, making us more compassionate and understanding toward others.

Authentic Christian Witness

A life that exemplifies "not I but Christ" serves as a powerful testimony to others, drawing them toward faith.

Inner Peace and Joy

Letting go of self-centered pursuits relieves burdens of pride and anxiety, replacing them with peace rooted in God's grace.

Challenges in Living "Not I but Christ"

Self-Centeredness and Worldly Influences

In a culture that celebrates individualism, surrendering to Christ can be countercultural and challenging.

Spiritual Warfare

The enemy often seeks to distract believers from humility and dependence on Christ through temptation and doubt.

Maintaining Consistency

Living this principle daily requires perseverance, prayer, and accountability.

Steps to Embrace "Not I but Christ"

1. Daily Surrender

Begin each day with a prayer of surrender, asking God to help you live through Christ.

2. Study the Word

Immerse yourself in Scripture to understand Christ's character and teachings more deeply.

3. Practice Humility

Seek opportunities to serve and put others' needs before your own.

4. Seek Community Support

Surround yourself with fellow believers who can encourage and hold you accountable.

5. Reflect and Repent

Regularly examine your heart, confess shortcomings, and realign with Christ.

Conclusion: The Transformative Power of "Not I but Christ"

Living with the mindset of "not I but Christ" is a lifelong journey of humility, surrender, and transformation. It challenges believers to shift their focus from self-centered pursuits to a Christ-centered life marked by love, service, and spiritual growth. As we embrace this principle, we not only deepen our relationship with Jesus but also become powerful witnesses to the world, demonstrating the transformative power of living through Christ. Ultimately, it is in surrendering ourselves that we find true purpose, peace, and fulfillment?living not for ourselves, but for Christ alone.

Not I but Christ: A Deep Dive into the Centrality of Christ in Christian Faith

Understanding the core of Christian faith requires a focus on one fundamental truth: Not I but Christ. This phrase encapsulates the essence of Christian humility, surrender, and the transformative power of Christ's presence in the believer's life. This review explores the theological, historical, and practical dimensions of this profound declaration, illustrating its significance across various facets of Christianity.

The Origin and Biblical Foundations of "Not I but Christ"

Historical Context

The phrase "Not I but Christ" finds its roots in the writings and teachings of early Christian figures who emphasized the importance of surrendering personal agency to Christ. It gained prominence through the ministry of figures like Charles Wesley, who often emphasized the necessity of divine empowerment over human effort. The phrase also echoes biblical scriptures that highlight the humility and reliance on Christ rather than self.

Biblical Passages Supporting the Concept

Several key scriptures serve as the foundation for the declaration "Not I but Christ":

- Galatians 2:20 ? "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me."
- John 3:30 ? "He must increase, but I must decrease."

- 2 Corinthians 5:15 ? "And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again."

- Philippians 1:21 ? "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."

These verses underscore the biblical principle that the believer's identity and life are rooted in Christ, emphasizing dependence rather than independence.

Theological Significance of "Not I but Christ"

Humility and Surrender

At the heart of this phrase lies a call for humility. Recognizing that salvation, sanctification, and spiritual growth are not achieved through human effort but through Christ's divine work. It is an acknowledgment that:

- Human strength and wisdom are insufficient for salvation.
- Christ's sacrifice is the only foundation for redemption.
- The believer's role is to surrender and allow Christ to work through them.

This attitude fosters a mindset of humility, reducing pride and fostering dependence on divine grace.

Union with Christ

Theologically, "Not I but Christ" emphasizes the doctrine of union with Christ. Believers are seen as joined to Him through faith, making His life, death, and resurrection integral to their own spiritual existence. This union:

- Transforms the believer's identity.
- Empowers them to live righteous lives.
- Ensures that Christ's victory over sin is reflected in their daily walk.

Sanctification and Transformation

The phrase also relates to sanctification—the process of becoming more like Christ. It implies that:

- True change occurs when Christ's life is lived out through the believer.

- Human effort alone is insufficient; only Christ working within can produce genuine holiness.
- The believer's role is to surrender, allowing Christ to mold and shape their character.

Historical Figures and Movements Emphasizing "Not I but Christ"

John Wesley and the Wesleyan Movement

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, championed the idea that spiritual progress depends on divine grace rather than human effort alone. His teachings emphasized reliance on Christ's power, which aligns closely with "Not I but Christ." Wesley's sermons and writings often highlighted the necessity of surrendering oneself entirely to Christ for sanctification.

William Booth and the Salvation Army

William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, preached a message centered on complete reliance on Christ's saving power. His emphasis on personal surrender and divine empowerment echoes the principles behind "Not I but Christ."

Revival Movements

Throughout history, various revival movements have invoked this phrase or its principles, emphasizing the need for believers to relinquish self-reliance and yield fully to Christ's lordship.

Practical Implications of Embracing "Not I but Christ"

In Personal Spirituality

Living out "Not I but Christ" involves:

- Daily surrender in prayer, acknowledging dependence on God.
- Recognizing that personal efforts are insufficient without divine grace.
- Cultivating humility, acknowledging one's limitations and need for Christ's strength.

In Evangelism and Ministry

Ministers and evangelists who adopt this mindset:

- Avoid preaching or ministering in their own strength.
- Rely on the Holy Spirit to empower their work.

- Emphasize Christ as the source of salvation, not human wisdom or charisma.

In Relationships and Community

Applying this principle promotes:

- Forgiveness and humility within relationships.
- Serving others selflessly, reflecting Christ's love.
- Building community on Christ's principles rather than personal agendas.

The Role of "Not I but Christ" in Christian Worship and Devotion

Worship Practices

Many Christian worship traditions incorporate this mindset through:

- Hymns and songs that emphasize surrender (e.g., Wesley's "And Can It Be").
- Personal testimonies of surrender and reliance on Christ.
- Liturgical prayers focusing on divine empowerment.

Devotional Life

In personal devotion, believers are encouraged to:

- Confess dependence on Christ daily.
- Seek empowerment through the Holy Spirit.
- Allow Christ's life to manifest in their thoughts, words, and actions.

Challenges and Misunderstandings

Potential Misinterpretations

While the phrase promotes humility and dependence, some may misunderstand it as:

- Diminishing personal responsibility.
- Encouraging passivity rather than active faith.
- Overemphasis on surrender to the point of neglecting personal growth.

Balancing "Not I but Christ" with Personal Responsibility

True Christian life involves a balance:

- Recognizing that faith involves active obedience.
- Understanding that surrender is ongoing, not a one-time act.
- Engaging in spiritual disciplines to foster dependence on Christ.

Conclusion: Embracing the Heart of Christian Discipleship

The declaration "Not I but Christ" encapsulates the essence of Christian humility, dependence, and transformation. It challenges believers to relinquish self-reliance and embrace Christ's lordship fully. Rooted in biblical teaching and echoed throughout Christian history, this principle serves as a guiding beacon for authentic discipleship.

Living out this truth requires daily commitment, spiritual discipline, and an ongoing surrender to the work of Christ within. Whether in personal devotion, ministry, or community life, embracing "Not I but Christ" leads to a more profound experience of grace and a life that truly reflects the character and love of Jesus Christ. It is not merely a slogan but a life-changing reality that, when embraced wholeheartedly, transforms believers into vibrant witnesses of Christ's power and presence in the world.

Question What is the meaning behind the phrase 'Not I but Christ'? The phrase emphasizes that believers should prioritize Christ's life and work over their own, acknowledging that it's through His strength and guidance that they live and serve. **Answer** How can I apply 'Not I but Christ' in my daily life? You can apply this principle by surrendering your desires and efforts to Christ, seeking His guidance in decisions, and allowing His character to be reflected through your actions. Who popularized the phrase 'Not I but Christ'? The phrase is closely associated with the hymn 'Not I, But Christ,' written by Christina Georgina Rossetti and popularized by Christian evangelists and hymnwriters as a reminder to rely solely on Christ. What biblical verses support the idea of 'Not I but Christ'? Verses like Galatians 2:20 ('I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me') and John 3:30 ('He must increase, but I must decrease') support this concept. Is 'Not I but Christ' a common theme in Christian sermons and teachings? Yes, it is a prevalent theme emphasizing humility, surrender, and the importance of Christ's work over personal efforts in spiritual growth. How does 'Not I but Christ' relate to Christian humility? It encourages believers to recognize their limitations and to rely on Christ's power, fostering humility and acknowledging that salvation and service are through Him alone. Can 'Not I but Christ' help in overcoming personal struggles? Yes, focusing on Christ rather than oneself can provide strength, hope, and encouragement to overcome challenges by trusting in His sufficiency. What role does surrender play in embodying 'Not I but Christ'? Surrender involves yielding one's own will and efforts to Christ,

allowing Him to work through you and guiding your actions in accordance with His purpose. Are there famous Christian figures associated with the message 'Not I but Christ'? Many Christian ministers and evangelists, such as D.L. Moody and others, have emphasized this message to inspire believers to live Christ-centered lives. How can believers share the message of 'Not I but Christ' with others? Believers can share their testimony, live lives exemplifying humility and reliance on Christ, and teach others about the importance of surrendering self to serve and honor Jesus.

Related keywords: Christianity, Jesus Christ, faith, salvation, surrender, spiritual growth, disciple, grace, surrender to Christ, divine guidance

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