

CLI PURPOSE STATEMENT

Let me take a few moments to share God's vision behind the words of our purpose at the Christian Life Institute:

*Growing Christians Forward
To live victoriously as overcomers
In but not of the world
Through the hope and healing of Christ*

Let's start from the bottom and build forward as we examine these phrases which exemplify the heart and purpose of the Christian Life Institute.

Through the hope and healing of Christ: We all need hope, and we all need healing. The foundation for the call is to encourage, exhort, and equip, in the Hope who is Christ and learn to step into the spiritual healing He so desires to bring in our lives. He wants to be your all in all. In Romans 15:13, we read, "may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope" and in 1 Peter 5:10, "and after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you."

In but not of the world: He wants to work in our lives to bring us hope and healing, in but not of this world. Faithfulness to obedience to our Savior does not require us stepping out of our lives and onto a mountain top. God wants us to see His work in real time, in the real world. He often does not change our circumstances, as He is seeking for us to change our perspective. To learn how to be in Him, in this world Following after Him, without allowing ourselves to be corrupted and tainted, to not fall prey to the world. We are physically in this world but as Jesus said in John 17:16, "they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world."



To live victoriously as overcomers: His work, in us, is for victorious living as overcomers. 1 Corinthians 15:57 states, “but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” We already have the victory. We need to remember how to live victoriously and cultivate a victorious way of living in Christ. John 16:33 calls our attention to the truth that Christ has overcome the world and John’s letter encourages us that, “for everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith” (1 John 5:4).

Growing Christians Forward: And at the top is the exhortation “to continuously grow forward in Christ.” From 2 Peter 3:18, “but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” Life in Christ is a lifestyle. Walking the narrow road in the sanctified life is a process and one which requires an intentional commitment to growth and change through the transforming work of the Holy Spirit.