

SESSION 2: IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Discuss Your Experience with “Listening Prayer”: 10 minutes Session #2 Teaching: Identity in Christ: 10 minutes

One of the richest passages about identity in the Bible is found in **Ephesians 1:3-14**. In this passage, Paul addresses the church in Ephesus, explaining the new identity given to a person when they are in Christ. According to Ephesians 1, we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing; we have been chosen, adopted, redeemed, forgiven, and unconditionally loved and accepted. We are pure, blameless and forgiven. We have received the hope of spending eternity with God. When we are in Christ, these aspects of our identity can never be altered by what we do.

Often, however, a gap exists between intellectually knowing these truths about who God says we are and living them out. This can be affected by how we see ourselves, life experiences and the ways we allow the world to define us. In order to live out of the fullness of our new identity in Christ, we must determine what hinders us from doing so. That varies from person to person. Over the next several weeks, we will be doing a deep dive into some practical obstacles that hold us back from fully living out our inheritance as children of God. The goal is to live out what Ephesians 1 says and see ourselves as:

- **Rejected instead of accepted.**
- **In chains instead of set free.**
- **Under the law instead of covered by grace.**
- **Orphaned instead of adopted**

I pray that this study allows you to see yourself as God sees you. If we live out of an identity based on how God sees us, we no longer feel the need to find our worth in our external circumstances. It frees us up to live confidently and stably instead of changing who we are based on the opinions of others, our professional success, how we see ourselves, and all the other ways we define our significance. It gives us the opportunity to experience God’s unconditional love in new and fresh ways. And it allows us to confidently and boldly share His love with others.

It is certainly a battle as we live in a world that seeks to define us by its own standards. But the battle is worth it because as we fight it, the world around us changes.

Small Group Discussion: 30 minutes

Each participant share your thoughts and experiences from your “listening prayer” time from the last week.

- **Discuss how you really see yourself and if it’s different than the teaching from today’s session.**
- **How would believing the truth about your new identity in Christ change the way you live?**
- **Do you want to change? Are you curious? What is stopping you?**
- **Read 1 Peter 2:9**

Talk about what it really means to have an Identity in Christ...When we accept Christ into our hearts, the person we were before dies, and we are reborn as a “new creation.” We lose our old identity and receive our new one. We no longer identify with the world and all its lies. We identify with Christ, and we become set apart. Our faith in Him distinguishes us from others (or at least it should).

Your identity is in Christ ... Even when you fall back into sin.

Discuss “LIFE Starter Journalling Method”: 10 minutes

SESSION 2: Weekly Devotional Day 1

WHO AM I IN CHRIST?

Take a look at the “*Who I Am In Christ*” Scriptures below. It lists the truths we NEED to believe to have victory in Christ. Pick ONE Scripture that touches you the most and use the **LIFE Starter Method** to journal about them.

In Christ I am accepted...

- John 1:12 — I am God’s child.
- John 15:15 — As a disciple, I am a friend of Jesus Christ.
- Romans 5:1 — I have been justified.
- 1 Corinthians 6:17 — I am united with the Lord.
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 — I belong to God

L=Listen: in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you’re studying. After you’ve read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal

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I = Investigate: the context around today’s Scripture reading. To whom was this written? Why? How does this passage fit with what comes before and after it? What is the Holy Spirit communicating through this text? Feel free to use Bible study tools for commentary: [Bible Study Tools](#), or [Easy English Bible](#)

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F=Focus: to the text to make it applicable for your own life. What is God saying to you personally through this passage? How can you apply what you’ve read?

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E = Engage: God. This can either be a short prayer or an action that you can take that day after reading the text. Is there a command to follow in the text? How are you different because of what you’ve learned?

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SESSION 2: Weekly Devotional Day 2

WHO AM I IN CHRIST?

Take a look at the “*Who I Am In Christ*” Scriptures below. It lists the truths we NEED to believe to have victory in Christ. Pick ONE Scripture that touches you the most and use the **LIFE Starter Method** to journal about them.

In Christ I am secure...

- Romans 8:1-2 – I am free from condemnation.
- Romans 8:28 – God works for my good in all things.
- Romans 8:31-39 – I am free from any condemnation.
- 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 – I have been anointed by God.
- 1 John 5:18 – The evil one cannot touch me.

L=Listen: in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you’re studying. After you’ve read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal

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SESSION 2: Weekly Devotional Day 3

WHO AM I IN CHRIST?

Take a look at the “*Who I Am In Christ*” Scriptures below. It lists the truths we NEED to believe to have victory in Christ. Pick ONE Scripture that touches you the most and use the **LIFE Starter Method** to journal about them.

In Christ I am significant...

John 15:5 – I am a branch of Jesus Christ, the true vine.

John 15:16 – I have been chosen to bear fruit.

1 Corinthians 3:16 – I am God’s temple.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 – I am a minister of reconciliation.

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SESSION 2: Weekly Devotional Day 4

WHO AM I IN CHRIST?

Take a look at the **“Who I Am In Christ”** Scriptures below. It lists the truths we NEED to believe to have victory in Christ. Pick ONE Scripture that touches you the most and use the **LIFE Starter Method** to journal about them.

In Christ I am significant...

- Ephesians 2:6 – I am with Christ in the heavenly realm.
- Ephesians 2:10 – I am God’s workmanship.
- Ephesians 3:12 – I may approach God with confidence.
- Philippians 4:13 – I can do all things through Christ.

Take today and spend time in Listening Prayer to reflect on your HEAR Journalling time this week and to receive all that God wants you to receive about identity in Christ. Make notes to share with your group!

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