



WHO ARE YOU?

FINDING YOUR IDENTITY IN JESUS

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

A key element of discipleship together is knowing each other well. Invite someone from the group to share their faith story or evidences of God's grace that you have observed this week. The goal in sharing stories is to listen for things to celebrate and thank God for, and to listen for themes or areas of life to ask questions and speak truth in love, as we point each other toward Jesus. A helpful approach to sharing a testimony is to focus on life before Jesus, meeting Jesus, and life since coming to saving faith in Jesus. Then take some time to encourage and pray for the person who shared and ask who will share next week.

OPENING COMMENT

How often do you miss out on the amazing truth of who you are, in the light of who Jesus is and what he did on the cross for you? Many people are living with an identity crisis ... they don't know who they are in Jesus. As we walk through life together it is important to remember that our true identity doesn't stem from our sin, our accomplishments, or our failures, but rather that it comes from God's unfailing love through Jesus.

What big takeaway or truth from the Word stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?

READ THE TEXT: 1 Peter 2:9-12

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ¹¹Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹²Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honourable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."



1) We Need to Embrace a Different Identity (v9)

1. Have you ever look at your life and asked the question "Who Am I"? When did you find yourself asking such a question?
2. Finish the following statement: "My life consists of ... " make a list.
3. Then ask - "What would it mean if I were to give this "life item" over to the leadership of Jesus Christ?" Where do you presently find meaning, purpose, confidence and hope?
4. What are distinguishing marks of the people of God which separate them from the world?

2) To Embrace Our Identity We Need to Understand Our Past (v10)

1. What are some of the blessings and privileges that distinguish a follower of Jesus from the world according to *1 Peter 2:9-10* ? What are the blessings and privileges you have seen in your life because you are a follower of Jesus?
2. Think back and share some example from your life: "Where you were dead and now you are alive"; "Where you were an object of God's wrath you are now an object of God's affection"; "Where you were destined to hell, you now sit with Christ." After sharing you may want to pray for each other.

3) To Have a New Identity Means We Wage War Against Sin (v11)

1. Romans 12:2 reminds us that we should not conform to the patterns of the world, but be transformed ... to be different ... because in Jesus we have been released from the bondage of sin! What does unrepentant sin do to you, and your relationship with God? How does your denial of the sin in your life play out, mentally, emotionally, physically ...?
2. How do we get victory over those inner desires to sin that try to enslave us?
3. Here are some passages from God's Word, for encouragement. Read them together: John 10:10, Romans 10:9, 2 Corinthians 7:10, Psalms 51:7, Psalms 51:10-12, John 3:16, Proverbs 3:5-6.

4) To Have a New Identity Means We Reflect the Glory of Christ (v12)

1. Peter is reminding believers that the goal is to live life above reproach. We reflect Christ when we hate sin and love holiness, when we love God and others well; when we fight oppression and injustice; when we forgive ourselves and others who have



sinned against us; we reflect Christ in all that we do. What are some of the characteristics that should mark the lives of believers (our lives) and separate us from the world, so that "...they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."?

CONCLUSION

What is God calling you to especially work on repenting of, or to restore in your life? What is your plan to do so? "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven."

Matthew 5:16

SHARE & PRAY

- Pray for the students who took a step of faith through Baptism this past Sunday.
- Pray for individuals in your community and mission field: pray for God to open the eyes of those who don't know him, and for wisdom and discernment for you to winsomely, humbly, and boldly display and declare the Gospel to those around you.
- Praise God for those in your Lifegroup and mission field: Thank God for specific ways they're like family to you and show you different aspects of the love of God.
- Pray over any questions that may arise regarding our identity in Christ, that it comes from God's unfailing love through Jesus. Confess areas of sin, disbelief, or discomfort you are experiencing in your life that you would like prayer over.

