Let's Talk About: Your Identity

Here is a really big question – who are you?

Most people identify themselves by their job. Many may identify themselves by where they come from or by some other characteristic. However, the Bible teaches us about our true identity – in Christ.

You Are in Christ

What do you think it means to be "in Christ?"

This is an important question to ask yourself, because it is a term that is used in the New Testament nearly 100 times, including 27 times in the letter to the Ephesians alone. That should tell you that this phrase is extremely important.

Read Galatians 3:26-28.

What do these verses tell you about who you are "in Christ?"

These verses also explain the things that don't matter. What are some of those things?

A person "in Christ" is a son (or daughter) of God. It does not matter what gender, nationality, or social position that person has, to God, that person is a "son."

What do you think it means to be a "son of God?"

Justified in Christ

Romans 3:23-24 reads, "**23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus**."

We have all sinned. How did we become justified?

How did that justification, the redemption become available to us?

The answer is "in Christ." In Christ and through Him is the only way that one can find grace and justification for the sins that he or she has committed. Romans 8:1 makes this perfectly clear when it tells us that there is "**no condemnation for those who are in Christ**." We are no longer condemned by our sins, because our status of being "in Christ" has freed us from any punishment or accountability related to our sins.

Are you "in Christ?"

Do you know that you have received the free gift of grace and that you are no longer condemned? What does this mean to you?

The important thing to keep in mind is that one is only justified when he or she has accepted the sacrifice that Jesus made. To be "in Christ" means that one must embrace that sacrifice. This is the only way that a person can be free from the payment owed for his or her sins.

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You Are Blessed

Read Ephesians 1:2-4. What does this tell us?

By being "in Christ," you have received every spiritual blessing available. What kind of blessings do you think God has given to you?

One of the most amazing parts of this passage is that God declares that He chose us before He had even begun to lay the foundation of the world. How does it feel to know that God chose you before He began to create the universe?

Read Ephesians 1:7-10. Describe the blessings God has for you in this passage.

Verse 10 tells us about the ultimate plan of God. What is that plan?

How do you think you fit into that plan?

Now read Ephesians 1:11-14. Paul reiterates many of the things he has said in the previous verses. What does he assure us as part of being "in Christ?"

Through these first 14 verses, God has made a lot of promises and guarantees. What do you think your identity in Christ should be based upon what you have read?

Are you living a life according to that identity?

How God Describes Us

If you are going to understand your identity, it is important to establish what God says about you. Read each of these passages and explain how God describes you:

John 1:12 –

2 Corinthians 5:17 –

Ephesians 2:10 –

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 –

John 15:15 –

Exodus 19:5 –

Colossians 1:11-13 –

God has declared many things about who you are "in Christ." These are truths of how God sees you and how He designed you. After reading these passages, what should be your identity?

What are the challenges in accepting that identity?

What things can help you to overcome those challenges?

Your Memory Verse: Romans 8:1 – [1] **There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.**

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