

Identity in Christ

Kingdom value or skill you hope to see developed: resting upon identity in Christ, not others

Who this is for: everyone

Desired impact on disciples: more freedom from the claims of others

Desired impact on campus/home/others: n/a

Hear the word

2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Colossians 3:1-10

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

- When we learn about Christ, our identity changes. What does it change to?
- How does this change how we think and act?
- What does it mean to be Christ's ambassadors?

Respond actively

What is a way you can keep these ideas close at hand this week? Brainstorm some options, then choose one.

Debrief and Interpret

- Did having these scriptures on your mind frequently change the way you thought or acted? Why? How?
- What did you learn about God through this experience? Yourself?

Expand the influence

Learn more about Christ's lordship