

Identity

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who I am; the spiritual core of my soul, spirit, emotions, and desires; the foundation of my dreams & decisions

Slaves Become Royalty

Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then God has made you an heir. (Galatians 4:6-7 CSB)

Believing The Impossible (John 8:48-59)

Jesus' Holy Spirit invites us to embrace our identity as God's sons and daughters. True identity comes at a great cost. All our lives, people will try to enslave us to false identities, especially in the Church. If we embrace the true, eternal identity Jesus bought and paid for with his suffering, blood, and death, we will be persecuted, even by family and friends. John 8 shows God's Son's glory on display: he is totally in control, completely clear on who he is and why he has come. God's people, however, reject Jesus and accuse him of being demon possessed and Lucifer's ambassador. When Jesus tells the people that he is God, they immediately try to kill him. We must believe the impossible, and then live courageously in persecution.

Discipleship & Prayer

- Why is my core identity God's eternal son/daughter?
- List some false identities that ensnare us in lies.
- Holy Spirit, set me free from any lies about who I am.

Abiding Branches > Jesus said, “I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for apart from Me, you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away like a branch and is dried up. Such branches are picked up and thrown into the fire and burned. If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you. In this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples. Just as the Father has loved Me, I also have loved you. Abide in My love!” (John 15:5-9 TLV)

Covenant Citizens > We were apart from Christ, alienated from the citizenship of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who were formerly far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He is our Peace, who has made both groups one and has broken down the barrier of the dividing wall, by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of the commandments contained in ordinances, that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus making peace.
(Ephesians 2:12-15 MEV)

Death To Life > You were dead in your trespasses and sins in which you previously walked according to the ways of this world, according to the ruler who exercises authority over the lower heavens, the spirit now working in the disobedient. We too all previously lived among them in our fleshly desires, carrying out the inclinations of our flesh and thoughts, and we were by nature children under wrath as the others were also. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love that He had for us, made us alive with the

Messiah even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace! (Ephesians 2:1-5 HCSB)

Disciplemaking Baptizers > Jesus came near his disciples and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. So wherever you go, make disciples of all nations: baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to do everything I have commanded you. And remember that I am always with you until the end of time.” (Matthew 28:18-20 GWT)

Holy Spirit Vessels > In Christ we have received an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His own will, that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, should live for the praise of His glory. In Him you also, after hearing the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your salvation, and after believing in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. (Ephesians 1:11-14 MEV)

Jesus' Friends > Jesus said, “My commandment to you is this: love others as I have loved you. There is no greater way to love than to give your life for your friends. You celebrate our friendship if you obey this command. I don't call you servants any longer; servants don't know what the master is doing, but I have told you everything the Father has said to Me. I call you friends. You did not choose Me. I chose you, and I orchestrated all of this so that you would be sent out and bear great and perpetual fruit. As you do this,

anything you ask the Father in My name will be done.
This is My command to you: love one another.”
(John 15:12-17 VOICE)

Listening Sheep > Jesus said, “The gatekeeper opens the gate for the shepherd; the sheep hear his voice as he calls his own sheep by name, and he leads them out. When he has brought them out, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they know his voice. They will not follow someone else; instead, they will run away from such a person, because they do not know his voice.” (John 10:3-5 GNT)

New Creations > Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that One died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. 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!
(2 Corinthians 5:14-17 NIV)

Reconciliation Ambassadors > All these blessings are from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. (2 Corinthians 5:18-20 ESV)

Slaves To Sons > When we were children, we were in slavery under the elements of the world. When the time came to completion, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba, Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then God has made you an heir. (Galatians 4:3-7 CSB)

Strangers To Family > When the Messiah came, He proclaimed the Good News of peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by One Spirit to the Father. So then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers but fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God’s household.
(Ephesians 2:17-19 HCSB)