

Session #4: Covenant and Identity in Christ

Welcome, Opening Prayer & Review Homework: 15 minutes

Group Discussion: New Covenant with Jesus: 15 minutes

Read Jeremiah 31:31-34

- See the connections between the old and new covenant.

Read Isaiah 53:5

- Reviewing how Jesus was the “lamb.”

Read Luke 22:19-20

- Relates to the “Last Supper.”

Read John 3:16 and Romans 10:9:

- Stepping into the new covenant.

Read 1 Samuel 18:1-4

- The putting on of the robe represents taking on the image of the covenant partner. Remember, covenant is the MOST solemn oath, binding two parties, therefore they are now responsible for one another. All they possess is held in common.

Do you put on the robe of Jesus?

See Philippians 2:5-8

You're built to experience a fuller life and in order to do that you need to accept that God HAS MORE for YOU. In order to receive it, YOU are going to have to open your HEART to let Him in (even more)! Don't try to control how much you do or don't receive.

Do you want to? Are you curious?

Read 1 Peter 2:9

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*).

Couple's Breakout: 15 minutes

Re-read 1 Peter 2:9 talk about what it really means to have an Identity in Christ...

Do YOU feel God loves you fully? Why or why not?

Do you love yourself as God loves you? Why or why not?

What can we do to BETTER understand God's love for us?

Do you know your identity as a child of God?

Discuss your personal identity...What defines who you are now?

How does that identity affect your life if you're a follower of Jesus but don't believe the truths of your new identity?

As we have the power to come into God's presence, pray and ask Him for the help you need to love and be loved as He loves. Make a commitment to pray together this week for God to reveal Himself and His love more deeply to you.

Group Discussion: Fear or Joy? 5 minutes

Read Hebrews 12:18-24

- Discuss The Mountain of Fear and the Mountain of Joy

Homework Review & Closing Prayer: 10 minutes

HOMEWORK: Identity In Christ: Take a look at the “Who I Am In Christ” Scriptures below, as it lists the mindset we **NEED** to have to have victory in Christ (see Romans 12:2).

✓ **Pick ONE or TWO Scriptures in each section and write them out and make them personal for you and your family:**

Who I Am In Christ? 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.*

Who I Am In Christ? 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.*

Who I Am In Christ? 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.*

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.*

✓ **Look again at questions you discussed on page 22 and in light of the verses above, discuss them again as a couple.**

✓ **Read the verses below and discuss your understanding of communion;**

Read Luke 22:19-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-27 and John 6:53-58

Communion began on the annual celebration of Passover when Jesus told his disciples to remember his sacrifice as they ate the bread and drank the wine. Just as Israel was celebrated the sacrifice of the Passover lamb when the angel of death passed over their homes, so believers in Jesus celebrate and remember his sacrifice of our sins when he died on the cross. Holy communion uses bread as a symbol of the body of Jesus and wine as a symbol of his blood. The act of taking communion does not save us, it is an act of worship and remembrance. ***If you have surrendered your heart to Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior, finish your time together this week with communion.***