

the Journey of Discipleship

Lesson 2: Kingdom Identity

INTRODUCTION:

The moment you placed your trust in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you were made spiritually alive in Christ through a marvelous exchange. You now have a new kingdom identity and a new position before God. In this lesson, you will learn about how the cross made this “marvelous exchange” possible and be encouraged to embrace your new kingdom identity.

1. *The world bombards us with a message that our worth is based on how people perceive our outward appearance or achievements. In light of this fact, how does this effect your view of your own self-worth? On a scale of 0-10, with 0= Low sense of self-worth and 10= Highest sense of self-worth.*

Self-Worth: Sense of value or worth as a person (Please circle one)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

2. *What have been some positive or negative influences that have shaped your sense of self-worth and identity?*

READ EPHESIANS 2:1-10

¹As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. ⁴But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

3. Complete the chart below to learn about your "old self" from these verses:

What was your old spiritual state? (v. 1)	
Whom or what did you follow?(v. 2)	
How or to what purpose did you live your life? (v. 3)	
What were you in relation to God? (v. 4)	

4. In verses 4-7, what words are used to describe God's love and sentiments towards us? Who is the "doer" in this passage and who is the "recipient"? How does this make you feel?

5. Therefore, because of God's love through Jesus Christ, we now have a new identity. Complete the chart below to learn about your new identity in Christ.

What is your NEW spiritual state? (v. 5)	
What is your spiritual position before God? (v. 6)	
How else does God view you? (v. 10)	
To What Purpose Do you now Live? (v. 10)	

6. *How did Christ's death on the cross and His resurrection accomplish this great work of salvation and an "identity swap" for us? Read Romans 3:21-26 and 2 Corinthians 5:21.*

7. *Read the key verse in Ephesians 2:8-10. Why is it that we cannot boast about our salvation?*

GOING DEEPER:

8. *What does it mean that we are raised up with Christ and seated with him in the heavenly realms? (V. 6-7). See also Rom 8:16-17.*

9. *In light of God's truth about who you are and your worth, how does this differ with how you saw yourself in question 1.*

LIVING IT OUT:

10. *What is needed to help you better embrace and accept your worth and identity in Christ?*

MOVING FORWARD:

11. One way to embrace our new identity is to proclaim the truth of who we are through Scripture. Take the following sheet and meditate on these true statements about yourself throughout the week.

REFERENCE VERSES:***Romans 3:21-26***

²¹But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²²This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:21

²¹God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Romans 8:16-17

¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. ¹⁷Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

WHO I AM IN CHRIST

ORIGINALLY COMPILED BY NEIL ANDERSON

I AM ACCEPTED...

<i>John 1:12</i>	I am God's child.
<i>John 15:15</i>	As a disciple, I am a friend of Jesus Christ.
<i>Romans 5:1</i>	I have been justified (declared righteous).
<i>1 Corinthians 6:17</i>	I am united with the Lord, and I am one with Him in spirit.
<i>1 Corinthians 6:19-20</i>	I have been bought with a price and I belong to God.
<i>1 Corinthians 12:27</i>	I am a member of Christ's body.
<i>Ephesians 1:3-8</i>	I have been chosen by God and adopted as His child.
<i>Colossians 1:13-14</i>	I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins.
<i>Colossians 2:9-10</i>	I am complete in Christ.
<i>Hebrews 4:14-16</i>	I have direct access to the throne of grace through Jesus Christ.

I AM SECURE...

<i>Romans 8:1-2</i>	I am free from condemnation.
<i>Romans 8:28</i>	I am assured that God works for my good in all circumstances.
<i>Romans 8:31-39</i>	I am free from any condemnation brought against me and I cannot be separated from the love of God.
<i>2 Corinthians 1:21-22</i>	I have been established, anointed and sealed by God.
<i>Colossians 3:1-4</i>	I am hidden with Christ in God.
<i>Philippians 1:6</i>	I am confident that God will complete the good work He started in me.
<i>Philippians 3:20</i>	I am a citizen of heaven.
<i>2 Timothy 1:7</i>	I have not been given a spirit of fear but of power, love and a sound mind.
<i>1 John 5:18</i>	I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me.

I AM SIGNIFICANT...

<i>John 15:5</i>	I am a branch of Jesus Christ, the true vine, and a channel of His life.
<i>John 15:16</i>	I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit.
<i>1 Corinthians 3:16</i>	I am God's temple.
<i>2 Corinthians 5:17-21</i>	I am a minister of reconciliation for God.
<i>Ephesians 2:6</i>	I am seated with Jesus Christ in the heavenly realm.
<i>Ephesians 2:10</i>	I am God's workmanship.
<i>Ephesians 3:12</i>	I may approach God with freedom and confidence.
<i>Philippians 4:13</i>	I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.