

Kingdom Purpose & Identity

New Wine Mentoring & Discipleship

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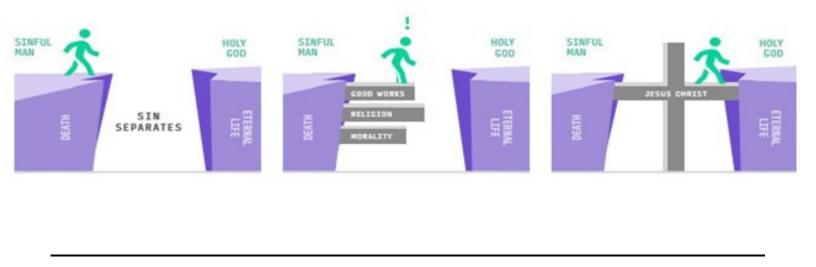
Understanding Your Kingdom Identity & Purpose



Have You Been Changed by Christ?

Are you in Christ right now? The bridge illustration will help you think through this answer.

Write out Romans 6:23 below the illustration.



Our sins separate us from God. People try different ways in vain to gain a relationship with God. The Bible says that what we are to do is to believe in Jesus Christ (John 6:28-29). Where do you see yourself on this illustration? Where would you like to be?

In what areas do you find yourself seeking identity outside of Christ? Do you find yourself holding tightly to something, in fear that you'll be lost without it?

Sometimes in God's grace, He allows the very thing we fear losing the most to be taken away to reveal that we have sought our identity in something other than him.

As He grows us in understanding our true identity is in Him, we are then freed to enjoy and glorify Him in the unique ways that He has created us.

Record the answers to the following questions in your journal:

- In your flesh, do you have gifts that are riddled with pride and imperfection?
- Do you have desires that often seek your own will more than God's?
- Do you have blessings that you are prone to hold tightly to rather than use for God's glory?

If so, remember that is no longer your identity.

You are righteous, holy, loved, and able to bring Christ glory through the gifts and blessings He has given you. Not by anything of your own doing, but by the grace of Jesus Christ.

Praise God that He loves us enough to take our broken, rebellious hearts and, because of the sacrifice of His son, offer us a new identity in Christ. Let's not settle for anything less.

Living out our new identity in Christ has to take root in our thinking – "our attitude of our minds." It must be based on Who God is – "His likeness," not on ourselves.

Look, Listen & Obey

Let's look at some of the keys to walking in our identity in Christ:

1. Look - Read HEBREWS 12:1-2.

- Why are we to look to Jesus?
- What does this phrase mean to you: "the author and finisher of our faith?"
- What do you think is the "joy that was set before Him?"
- In what ways can we "fix our eyes on Jesus"?

Read COLOSSIANS 3:1-10.

- Why do you think these verses say both "set your hearts" and "set your minds" on things above?
- How can we do this?
- Why is it important for us to be renewed in knowledge according to God's image? (verse 10)
- How do you think this happens?

2. Listen

There are many voices and noises in the world that distract us from God. God desires us to set our minds on Him and hear what He says. As we have learned in a previous lesson, one-way God speaks to us is through His Word, the Bible

Read Romans 12: 1-2

The "world" wants you to conform to its identity.

How can you escape living a life conformed to this world?

Read II TIMOTHY 3:16-17 and HEBREWS 4:12.

- In your own words, what do these verses tell us about listening to God's Word?
- How will the Bible transform us and renew our minds?

Obey - Read John 8:31-32 How does knowing the truth make us free?	

Who Am I as a Women in Christ

Our identity in Christ is simply based on the finished work of the Cross. Therefore, both women and men have equal identity in Christ–Galatians 3:26-29.

I am called to accomplish God's purpose	Romans 8:28, 30
I am called to proclaim the excellencies of God who called me out of darkness into His marvelous light	1 Peter 2:9
I am redeemed and cleansed of all my sins by Christ's blood, sanctified—set apart by God's spirit	Ephesians 1:7; 1 John 1:7; 1 Corinthians 6:11
I am forgiven by God of all my sins. I am holy, blameless, above reproach, and justified – declared right in God's sight.	1 John 1:9; Romans 5:1, Colossians 1:21-22
I am a child of God.	John 1:12-13
I am chosen and adopted by God.	Ephesians 1:4-5; Romans 8:15
I am a member of God's family.	1 John 3:1
I have been baptized into Christ and have put on Christ.	Galatians 4:1-7

I am a son of God.	Galatians 4:1-7
I am a joint-heir with Jesus Christ.	Romans 8:16-17; Galatians 3:29
I am a full citizen of heaven and God's Kingdom.	Ephesians 2:19; Philippians 3:20
I am seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, far above principalities, powers and dominions.	Ephesians 2:6
I am an ambassador for Christ.	2 Corinthians 5:20
I am a Royal priesthood (I am a King and I am a Priest)	1 Peter 2:9
I am salt and light.	Matthew 5:13-16
I am the aroma of Christ.	2 Corinthians 2:14-15

These are just a few descriptions of who we are as women in Christ. I challenge you to study the Scriptures to find out more about who you are in Christ, as a woman.

Accept and appreciate who you are and the way God has created you to be (gifts and talents, intelligence, body, circumstances, experiences), but don't settle and stay where you are. We are fearfully and wonderfully made. We should not desire to be like anyone else. Thank God for who He created you to be.

Don't settle for status-quo, take all that God has given you and make your mind, your body, and your soul better. Smooth off the rough edges, fill your mind and soul with God, build upon your God given gifts. God created everything Good, take what God has given you and make the most of it. May the joy of the Lord be your Strength!

Core Statement:

I have a new identity in Christ! I will allow His image to be my new image of myself. I will resist all challenges to my new identity in Christ.

- 1. What does it mean to you that God thinks of you as a masterpiece?
- 2. Take a look at the "Who Am I As A Woman in Christ" chart. It lists many truths about who we are as women and daughters of the Most-High God.
- Which of these are hard for you to believe?
- Which ones mean the most to you?
- 3. How does it affect your life as a follower of Jesus when you do not believe the truths of your new identity?
- 4. How is our identity in Christ like a new identity of a caterpillar when she becomes a butterfly?
- 5. Reflect on the study on identity and purpose and identify one way that you will apply what you learned.
- 6. What is one change or course correction you will make in your life as a result of this study?
- 7. Identify one person to share what you have learned.

Your Influences

Check the three areas that best describes what has or currently influences your opinion about yourself:

what others think of me	my weaknesses
my physical appearance	my achievements
my talents, gifts, and abilities	my friends
what my family says about me and to me	my level of intelligence
my attitude	my family's reputation
the clothes I wear and the way I dress	what God says about me
my income	other:

Purpose

When we create something, we create it for a reason and with a specific purpose in mind.
Therefore, we give purpose to whatever we create. God, our Creator, loves us and has given us purpose.
Reflect:
How has your view of yourself changed from going through this study? Do you usually think of yourself as having intrinsic value and worth?
How does your view of others change when you begin to see them in light of this study?

My Heart Beats (Passion)

Se	elect the Top 3 from the list that	Trig	gger a Passion in You
	Abortion/Pregnancy Loss Recovery		Compulsive Behavior
	Homelessness		Abuse/Violence
	Drug Abuse / Recovery		Divorce Recovery
	Alcoholism		Spiritual Lethargy
	Blended Families		Education
	Marriage/Family Matters		At-risk children
	Parenting		Healthy/Fitness
	Poverty/Hunger		Disabilities
	Financial Stewardship		Other:
	Have other passions that are no	t list	ed? Write them below

Self-Confidence

James 4: 13-15

- 13 Look here, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit." 14 How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone.
- 15 What you ought to say is, "If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that."
- 16 Otherwise you are boasting about your own plans, and all such boasting is evil.
- 17 Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.
- 1. The Bible says that we should not have such great confidence that we think we can plan our lives out. What should we say instead? (V13-15)
- 2. What is it called when you know "the good" that you ought to do, and yet you don't do it? (V17)
- 3. Reflection/Application: What is the one thing that really stood out to you, and how can you apply it to your life?

Answer Key:

- 1. If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.
- 2. It is sin

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