

HIS STORY. YOUR STORY.

WEEK 2: YOUR STORY

EMBRACING YOUR NEW IDENTITY IN CHRIST



BIG IDEA: Knowing your true identity helps you understand your part in God's Story

DATE: Wednesday, February 7 & Sunday, February 11

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 1:4-5

OPENING QUESTION

The concept of "identity" is a hot topic these days. How does the culture define you as a woman? As a man? (What are some stereotypes?) How does the enemy define you?

The whole issue of IDENTITY is very much in question in our culture today. That is why it is so important to know your identity and find your identity in Christ. When we find it in what we DO or what we are GOOD at then what if that is taken away? Sports identity – what happens when you are injured? Parent – what happens when the nest becomes empty? Business owner – what happens when it fails? Identity crisis! But when we know who we are in Christ, our footing is secure and we cannot be brought down, manipulated, or confused.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Who or what are you tempted to find your fulfillment in? (career, relationship, children, fitness, abilities, possessions, etc.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 1:4-5 (NIV)

"Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure."

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

What does this passage teach us about God?

What does this passage teach us about humanity?

How does this truth about your identity in Christ change the way you see yourself or others?

APPLICATION EXERCISE

"God's Love Letter"

On Day 8 you will read a Love Letter from God to you – all coming directly from Scripture.

CHALLENGE: Share "God's Love Letter" with someone this week. Pray and see who God brings to mind. Think of someone who may be struggling this week. What a perfect time to share this with Valentine's Day coming up. Do you have a neighbor or friend who is far from God? Or one who is hurting, possibly a widow or shut-in, co-worker, family member, or recently divorced? Hand deliver this letter (you can roll it up and tie it with a red ribbon) or mail it in a Valentine's Card.

READING PLAN

2/11: Day 8 **2/12:** Day 9 **2/13:** Day 10 **2/14:** Day 11 **2/15:** Day 12 **2/16:** Day 13 **2/17:** Day 14