

Our Identity in Christ



Created in His Image

To understand our identity in Christ, it helps to look to the beginning. Seeing God's desire in creation shows us His standard from the start. We can see in Genesis that He created mankind in **HIS** image (representation, figure, reflection) and **HIS** likeness (similitude, fashion, resemblance). He was created from dust, yet when God breathed HIS OWN breath into Adam, he **BECAME** a **LIVING SOUL**. Genesis 3:8 references that Adam and Eve "walked with God in the cool of the day." God created mankind (male & female), His most prized possessions, to reflect and to look just like Him in both **body** AND **nature**. He then BLESSED his favored creation, crowned them with glory and gave them dominion over all He had created, along with the command to multiply and replenish the earth.

Scriptures: Genesis 1:26-28, Genesis 2:7, Psalm 8:3-6, Psalm 139:14-16, Acts 17:26-28

- *Considering the plan of God in creation, how do you see Your Father's desire for you?*

Redeemed

Adam and Eve were deceived, and ultimately disobeyed God. This act robbed them of the closeness they had with Him and brought the curse upon themselves, and every generation that followed. Because of this, we were all born into sin. But **THANK GOD** He had a plan of redemption from the start. Jesus paid the price to restore us back into our created value and purpose - To walk with God in the cool of the day, to live as His sons and daughters, to bear His image & likeness, and to walk in His dominion. Jesus said, "if you have seen me, you have seen the Father who sent me." He glorified the Father, showing us His ways in everything He DID and SAID. On the cross, His arms stretched out in the greatest act of love shown to mankind. He invited EVERY soul back to start. Through repentance and obedience, we are brought back, and get to LIVE and EXPERIENCE every new creation reality that has been purchased for us.

Scriptures: John 1:12-13, 1 Cor. 15:47-49, 2 Cor. 3:16-18, 2 Cor. 5:16-18

- *How has Jesus given you/ restored your identity? Discuss the image of the Heavenly Man. Discuss how you are being transformed more and more into His image.*

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Owning Our New Identity

The New Testament DRENCHES us with the knowledge of our identity as sons of God! It shouts from the rooftops the awesome nature of God, emboldening us to imitate our Father, by walking in His righteousness and love in ALL we say and ALL we do. And with such great redemption, how could we not?!

In Jesus, we BELONG. We are LOVED. We are FAMILY. We are FOUND. We are FORGIVEN. We are ALIVE. We are DELIVERED. We are EMPOWERED. We are FREE. We are CRUCIFIED WITH HIM, and we will REIGN WITH HIM. We are HOLY. We are RIGHTEOUS. In Him, we LACK NOTHING.

Scriptures: Ephesians 5:1-2, 2 Peter 1:2-4, Romans 8:28-30, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 4:20-24

- *Name and discuss some new testament scriptures that taught you who you are. How are you "owning" this identity?*
