



A New Identity

WEEK 1 DISCUSSION GUIDE

OVERVIEW

In the new series entitled, *Immersed*, we are embarking on a journey to study three life-changing experiences we find in Scripture.

DISCUSSION

The Apostle Paul tells us in **Romans 6:3: *Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?*** When you're baptized into Christ, you're made new. When you give your heart to Jesus, you're washed by the blood of Christ, forgiven of your sin, and you receive a new identity. **1 John 5:8 says: *And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.***

- What are the three ways to be baptized as described in **1 John 5:8**?

Three Characteristics of Who You are in Christ:

1. In Christ, I'm Significant

Ephesians 1:1: *Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus.* From God's perspective, we are saints, not because of who people say we are, but because of what Christ did for us. We are now the righteousness of God in Christ.

- I refuse to buy the lie: that status, popularity, and recognition by others will make me feel significant.
- I confess: In Christ, I'm significant. I am chosen (1 John 15:16); I am God's workmanship (Ephesians 2:10); I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13).
 - Why is it difficult sometimes for our significance to only come from God?
 - Why is it important that our significance only comes from Him?

2. In Christ, I'm Sufficient

Ephesians 1:3: *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,*

According to this verse, God has given us sufficiency, acceptance, and blessing in Christ. The further we stray from God's Word to interpret our identity on what we feel, the more confused we will be. Feelings come and go. That's why our identity must be based on truth—that we're significant in Christ!

- I refuse to buy the lie: that superstar performance and great accomplishments will make me feel accepted and value.
- I confess: In Christ, I'm sufficient. I am God's child (John 1:12); I am united with the Lord, and I am one with Him in spirit (1 Corinthians 6:17).
 - In what ways have you felt insufficient?
 - Have you ever felt insufficient in your relationship with God?
 - What can you do to feel sufficient in Him?

3. In Christ, I'm Secure

Ephesians 1:4-6: *Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.*

In Christ, we are secure. He chose to adopt us as His sons and daughters. He has freely bestowed on us His grace and made us part of His family. We are accepted and can rest in our relationship with Him.

- I refuse to buy the lie: that good looks and the admiration of others will make me feel secure.
- I confess: In Christ, I'm secure. I have been established, anointed, and sealed by God (2 Corinthians 1:21-22); I am hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3:1-4); I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me (1 John 5:18).
 - What are some insecurities you face?
 - How does the security of Christ comfort you and speak truth in those areas of insecurity?

LIFE CHALLENGE

Practice the confession statements listed under each of the Three Characteristics of Who You are in Christ, and continue to grow in your new identity.

PRAYER REQUESTS & CLOSE IN PRAYER