



Journal

Chapter 5: IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Personal Study

Last week you considered your beliefs about the Bible. Did you learn anything new about the importance of God's Word in your life? Maybe you even gained a new love of Bible reading. That's great! This week before your group meeting, read *Believe, Chapter 5: Identity in Christ*. Then spend some time allowing the Scripture to take root in your heart and reflecting on your thoughts about who you are as a person.

Read

Read Believe, Chapter 5: Identity in Christ and answer the following questions.

1. Describe the common patterns found in these scriptures.

2. As you read this chapter, what new thoughts, ideas, or uncertainties arose in your mind?

3. What did you read that was new to you?

Inspired you? _____

Comforted you? _____

Fascinated you? _____

Left you feeling unsure? _____

4. What does this chapter reveal to you about God's character?

Which incentives are most compelling to you? _____

5. In what ways has this chapter altered your perspective on your personal identity and value?

6. Identify the similarities and differences in the Old and New Covenant.

Evaluate

Based on your reading from Believe, Chapter 5: Identity in Christ, evaluate your level of confidence in the statements below, using a 1–6 scale (1 = no confidence, 6 = complete certainty).

_____ I believe God loves me; therefore my life has value.

_____ I exist to know, love, and serve God.

_____ I believe God loves me, even when I do not obey him.

_____ I believe I am forgiven and accepted by God.

Take Action

Memorizing Scripture is a valuable discipline for all believers to exercise. Spend a few minutes each day committing this week's Key Verse to memory.

Key Verse: "Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:12)

Recite this week's Key Idea out loud. As you do, ask yourself, does my life reflect this statement?

Key Idea: I am significant because of my position as a child of God.

Answer the following questions to help you apply this week's Key Idea to your own life.

1. How would this belief-in-action express itself in your life?

2. What visible attributes can be found in someone who finds his or her identity in Christ?

3. What behaviors or attitudes would change if you found your value in Christ rather than personal achievements?

4. How can you squash the temptation to prove your significance through performance?

Journal

Bring this study guide with you to church and use the following space to take notes from the pastor's or teacher's message.

