

The Difference is Identity

Week of September 24, 2017

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.



Message Recap:

Read **Matthew 3:13-17; Matthew 20:25-28**

Identity. This is the difference. If we know our identity is in Christ and accept that identity, service follows. All are invited but not all accept the invitation. Acceptance of our identity becomes evident through our obedience. In the same way Christ was obedient and was sent to serve we are also to be obedient as we are sent to serve. More than this, when we know and accept our identity, we choose to be obedient and we serve with passion and purpose. God gives us all gifts to be used in service. We show Christ to others when our service is seen by those around us. We can serve at home, at work, at church and in our communities. Like Daniel (Read Daniel 6), God has given us direction to serve him as well as an inheritance through him. This isn't just to be passed on to the next generation, it is to be shared now through service and living evidence of our identity.

Pray

We are grateful for your son Jesus Christ and that in knowing his identity he served you. He is our example. We are also thankful you have given us the opportunity to be your sons and daughters. May we accept our identity and commit to serving your purposes. Our prayer is that you will be 100% on our agenda every day.

Digging Deeper

Share Your Experience on Social Media This Week #SevernRun #LoveLikeJesus #ServeLikeJesus

Getting Started

- Share about a time when someone was of service to you or your family.
- Has there ever been a time you focused on seeking and serving God's agenda for your life? Share what happened.

Digging Deeper

1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. Explain how God wants us to be identified. How is this a better fit for you?
2. Does accepting ourselves as sons and daughters of God affect our identity and the way we live? If so, how? If not, why not?
3. What is the outcome of living our identity as God has planned for us?
4. In what ways does Satan work to taint or even destroy our identity in Christ?
5. Where in your life or in your community do you see dissatisfaction? How does having God's joy guide us through dissatisfaction? How can you use that joy to help others who are dissatisfied?
6. Read 1 Peter 4:10. Do you agree that we are all gifted? Why or why not? What do you think your gifts are?
7. Read Colossians 3:24. What are we to do today with the inheritance God promises us?

Living Jesus

We are all given the same opportunity to accept our identity in Christ and believe we are loved and are lovable. In doing so God fills us with his joy leading us to use our gifts to serve with passion and purpose. Examine your agenda. Whose's activities are on your agenda? Commit now to focus on seeking God and his agenda. If you know your call...do it! If you don't...seek it! Then go and be the difference.

Your Story

How is your life different because of Jesus? How is your life different than someone who isn't yet a believer? What are you doing to obey Jesus?