

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP FOUNDATION STUDIES

Session #4

Welcome back to Session 4. I'm very glad to have you with us again.

If you haven't yet listened to all the previous sessions, which have some really valuable information for you and will lead you nicely into this session, please go ahead and do so first. You will find these Session links in the description box below. Then come back and join us here.

Last session, we explored how important it is to read and know the Bible, which is the very Word of God and we ended with a very small introduction to the New Covenant of Redemption brought about by our Saviour's death on the cross.

This session, we are going to discover our wondrous new identity, which is in Christ. As we are a new creature and have left our old sin nature behind, let's get familiar with how God sees us now that we have decided to follow Jesus.

Our true identity is revealed in God's Word, the Bible.

In the Book of James, God's Word is referred to as a mirror because it accurately reveals the truth about us, now that we have become a new creation. As we walk through the ups and downs of our journey called Life, it is important not to forget who God says we are.

Firstly, there will likely be a lot less 'downs' in our lives if we do what the Bible tells us in James 1:22-25 and that is ...

“Don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it”

Being set free because of Christ's death on the cross, our past, our behaviour and our circumstances no longer determine our identity. It is purely what Jesus did at the cross that defines us. At the cross we died to sin, because Jesus died for our sin. He took our place and because of His obedience to death, and because of our obedience to Jesus, in God's eyes, we became righteous ! When God looks at us, He looks at us through His most beloved Son, Jesus, our sinless Lamb of God, our sacrifice once and for all time.

It is in our new identity in Christ that our behaviour will be transformed and we will experience a new freedom. This is a freedom not like the world thinks is freedom. It is sad that people are actually deceived into the mindset that because they can do whatever they choose they have freedom, however, they are far from it. It is because of a consciousness of sin and the understanding of the consequences of sin which ultimately leads us to Jesus and that is what sets us free. Our Heavenly Father knows what is best for us and He instructs & guides us in right living through His Word and then we are truly free from guilt.

2Corinthians 3:17-18 tells us "For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image"

This is a supernatural transformation done by the Spirit of the Lord. This is such a gift because we cannot do it on our own.

As we behold in the mirror of God's Word, the glory of who we are in Christ, our behaviour will be transformed into the same image.

Let's look at just **some** of the truths from God's Word about your new identity in Christ. It is good to get used to declaring out-loud positive quotes to neutralise any negative words spoken over you or to you in the past. So, how about you repeat after me these truths, to plant deep inside of your soul what God thinks and says about you. I will only say the quote, but the specific Bible verses will be in the study notes, so please check these out later.

Now, let's start, please repeat these statements after me

I AM FREE

Romans 6:6 I am no longer a slave to sin.

I AM ACCEPTED

John 1:12 I am God's child.

John 15:15 I am Christ's friend.

Romans 5:1 I have been justified.

1 Corinthians 6:17 I am united with the Lord and I am one spirit with Him.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 I have been bought with a price. I belong to God.

1 Corinthians 12:27 I am a member of Christ's body.

Ephesians 1:5 I have been adopted as God's child.

Ephesians 2:18 I have direct access to God through the Holy Spirit.

Colossians 1:14 I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins.

Colossians 2:10 I am complete in Christ.

I AM SECURE

Romans 8:1-2 I am free forever from condemnation.

Romans 8:28 I am assured that all things work together for good.

Romans 8:31-34 I am free from any condemning charges against me.

Romans 8:35-39 I cannot be separated from the love of God.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 I have been established, anointed, and sealed by God.

Colossians 3:3 I am hidden with Christ in God

Philippians 3:20 I am a citizen of heaven.

2 Timothy 1:7 I have not been given a spirit of fear but of power, love & a sound mind.

Hebrews 4:16 I can find grace and mercy in time of need.

1 John 5:18 I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me.

I AM SIGNIFICANT

Matthew 5:13-14	I am the salt and the light of the earth.
John 15:1-5	I am a branch of the vine, a channel of His life.
John 15:16	I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit.
Acts 1:8	I am Christ's personal witness.
1 Corinthians 3:16	I am God's temple.
2 Corinthians 5:17-21	I am a minister of reconciliation for God.
2 Corinthians 6:1	I am God's co-worker (1 Cor 3:9)
Ephesians 2:6	I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realm.
Ephesians 2:10	I am God's workmanship.
Ephesians 3:12	I may approach God with freedom and confidence.
Philippians 4:13	I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

I AM UNFINISHED

Philippians 1:6	God will continue his work in me, until Jesus returns.
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Declaring these truths daily will plant them deep into your soul where you'll be able to reach in and pull them out when you need them. They will be your strength in times of trials.

After meditating on God's truth from scripture, you should begin to believe those things about yourself and allow it to change the way you behave.

Today, I encourage you to change the way you look at yourself. No matter what you've done, or what you're going through, Jesus has qualified you to be more than you could ever have imagined.

Begin to agree with who God says you are and declare it out of your mouth daily. We can then begin to experience life on a completely different level than the rest of the world. A life of joy and peace—a life of purpose and power, all made possible because of the sacrifice of your Saviour Jesus Christ !

In Session No 5, we're going to get to know our Saviour a little better. Getting to know Him will be an exciting lifetime of discovery, and we will never know all there is to know about the Kingdom of God, but we will make a start in the next Session, so please join us soon.

If you haven't already, please subscribe to this You Tube Channel for notifications of new videos as soon as they become available.

Until next time, bye for now and enjoy declaring God's truths about you and may you be blessed as God reveals your new identity in Jesus.

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