

**Affirming My Identity In Jesus**  
**New Identity – Part 3**  
**April 17-18, 2021**  
**Steve Tanner**

*“Now the Festival of Unleavened Bread arrived, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John ahead and said, ‘Go and prepare the Passover meal, so we can eat it together.’” Luke 22:7-8 (p.804)*

**The first Passover.** See Exodus 12:1-30. (p.52)

*“Celebrate this Festival of Unleavened Bread, for it will remind you that I brought your forces out of the land of Egypt on this very day. This festival will be a permanent law for you; celebrate this day from generation to generation.” Exodus 12:17 (p.52)*

*“Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed for us.” 1 Corinthians 5:7b (p.872)*

- **As I Take Communion I Affirm My Identity In Jesus.**

**Series Key Verse:** *“Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!” 2 Corinthians 5:17 (p.884)*

- 1. Remember I am selected by Him.**

*“On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, ‘This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’” 1 Corinthians 11:23-24 (p.877)*

- 2. Remember I am saved by Him.**

*“In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it.’” 1 Corinthians 11:25 (p.877)*

*“John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, ‘Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” John 1:29 (p.809)*

- 3. Remember my identity is sealed in Him.**

*“For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again.” 1 Corinthians 11:26 (p.877)*

**Next Step:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am keeping the cup I used for communion today. Every time I see it this week I will immediately thank Jesus for His sacrifice for me.



Discussion/Groups Guide from the Weekend Talk  
From the Weekend Talk of April 17-18, 2021  
***New Identity - Part 3: Affirming My Identity In Jesus***

**ONE VOICE**

**Life Groups use these questions** to go deeper into what we talked about this weekend. Dig into them so you will be ready for the discussion at your Life Group. If you are not in a Group, find out more at [www.alivechurch.com/groups](http://www.alivechurch.com/groups).

You can also use this guide to discuss the Talk with your family or friends.

**Conversation Starters**

- Have you ever joined a group where you had to participate in a ceremony or meet a certain standard (Such as in school with a fraternity, sorority, clubs, etc.)
  - Were you accepted (affirmed)? How did this make you feel?
  - This could even happen in a church. Has it happened to you in that environment?
- Do you have any special family meals or family traditions? How did they come about?
- Do you remember the first time you saw or experienced communion?
- Do you enjoy partaking in communion? Why or why not?

**Quick Review**

Looking back at your Talk Notes, was there anything you heard in the service that stood out, challenged, or maybe even confused you?

**Discussion Starters from the Weekend Talk**

Refer to the Talk Notes and related Bible verses from this Weekend's Talk Notes.

***In his Weekend Talk, Pastor Steve Tanner encouraged us to remember that...***

- ***As I Take Communion I Affirm my Identity in Jesus.***
  - See Luke 22:7-8 (p.804); Exodus 12:17, 21-27 (p.52); 2 Corinthians 5:17 (p.884).
  - At the time of Jesus' ministry on earth, the Old Covenant God made with Abraham had been in effect for about 2100 years. It is being set aside for the New Covenant established by Jesus at this Supper (Communion). Jesus is the "priest" who makes the offering of the sacrifice, AND He is the sacrifice!
    - See Genesis 12:1-3 (p10); Genesis 15:17-19 (p.12); Matthew 26:28 (p 757); 1 Corinthians 11:25 (p.877).
  - Have you ever made an agreement with someone?
    - Have you ever re-negotiated the terms?
  - What makes the New Covenant better than the old one?

***Steve then walked us through one of the descriptions of Communion—The Lord's Supper—which we find in the Bible.*** Much evidence exists to show that the passage we are studying in

the New Testament (1 Corinthians 11) was written before the writing of any of the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

**1. Remember I am selected by Him.** (1 Corinthians 11:23-24 (p.877))

- What about this passage speaks to being selected by Jesus?
- What would you have thought if your leader began to talk about giving His life for you?
- Why is Jesus so emphatic about our “remembering” this?

**2. Remember I am saved by Him.** (1 Corinthians 11:25 (p.877); John 1:29 (p.809); Hebrews 10:1, 10-11 (p.925))

- The old covenant sacrificial system included lots of bloodshed. In this way, God was graphically demonstrating the seriousness of sin. It had to be “atoned” for, or covered/dealt with/reconciled. It meant to take two separate parties and make them be “at one” with each other. But it also had to be repeated over and over and over again.
  - Jesus changed all of that!
  - The Passover lamb of Exodus 12 (p52) is a foreshadowing of Jesus as the “Lamb of God” that John calls out to in John 1 (p.809).
  - Read the Hebrews passage above.
    - What makes Jesus’ sacrifice better than all that went before?
    - How do we sometimes live like we’re still under the old system?

**3. Remember my identity is sealed in Him.** (1 Corinthians 11:26 (p.877)).

- What kind of ID or seal have you had issued to you through the years?
- Why do you think we are told to remember Jesus’ death?
- How does Communion differ from Baptism?
- Paul goes on to talk about how we are to prepare ourselves for Communion in verses 27-33. See the “Digging Deeper” section of these notes for further study of that.

***Affirmation Through Communion.*** (1 Corinthians 5:7b (p.874)).

Do this together with your Group. Walkthrough the three points of the teaching as you read the verses from each point.

- Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-24. Take the bread.
- Read 1 Corinthians 11:25 and John 1:29. Take the cup.
- Read 1 Corinthians 11:26. Thank Jesus for His sacrifice.

### ***Digging Deeper***

- What do you do to prepare yourself mentally and spiritually for communion?
  - Sharing this amongst believers, especially new believers, can be helpful.
- Is it ever right not to take communion? (See 1 Corinthians 11:27-33 (p.877)).
  - Why is it important to examine ourselves?
  - Why is it important to get right, not just with God, but with fellow believers?
  - Paul teaches us the need for harmony and unity as part of God’s family. Ephesians 4:1-4 (p 896).
    - Why can this be an issue and how can we overcome the issue/barriers?

- Then just as there is the preparation of the lamb we need to prepare ourselves.
  - 1 Corinthians 11:31 (p877).
- What is sacrifice and our role in it? Look again at Exodus 12:1-30 (p.52).
  - It is to surrender a possession to God?
  - Note It was not the weakest animal, but a young healthy animal. (Exodus 12:21 (p52)).
  - In the case of Isaac - it was Abraham's son. Genesis 22:2 (p17).
  - Christ was the ultimate sacrifice, so what will we surrender to him that we might be hanging on to? (See Hebrews 10 (p.925))
    - Are we giving Him our first fruits? Numbers 18:12 (p121)
    - Think about what Jesus sacrificed for us and what we need to sacrifice in our obedience to Him.

### Next Step

#### **My Next Step:**

       *I am keeping the cup I used for communion today. Every time I see it this week I will immediately thank Jesus for His sacrifice for me.*

- Use the link on the app or go to your Connection Card at [www.alivechurch.com/card](http://www.alivechurch.com/card) to indicate you are taking this Next Step so that we can pray for you.

### What's Ahead

- ***This weekend our series continues: "New Identity" as we consider our new identity in Christ.***
- ***April's "Outside Our Walls" Missions*** Focus is on a mission opportunity in northern Africa. Two of our own, Dennis and Judy Thomas, head around the world to help share Jesus, disciple men, and women, and raise up a children's ministry in an area deeply affected by Covid-19. Every dollar given to Alive Church's "Outside Our Walls" in April goes to assist in this effort. Find out more at [www.alivechurch.com/missions](http://www.alivechurch.com/missions).
- ***Have you signed up for our Alive Church Newsletter?***
  - Sign up here: [www.alivechurch.com/newsletter](http://www.alivechurch.com/newsletter)

\* The Life Transformation Bible is the New Living Translation of the Bible, including many useful tools to help you better understand God's Word, including our own Alive Church Life Transformation Discipleship Plan. They are available FREE. Let us know if you'd like to have one. We have a Kids Edition of the Bible, as well.