

Identity Protection
New Identity – Part 4
April 24 - 25, 2021
Dr. Jeffrey Allen Love

Genesis 22 - Abraham and Issac (p.17)

"God tested Abraham's faith...Take your son, your only son—Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you." Genesis 22:1-2 (p.17)

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (p.811)

"This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood." 1 Corinthians 11:25 (p.877)

• My Identity In Jesus Cannot Be Stolen.

"When you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit...The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people." Ephesians 1:13-14 (p.895)

1. Recognize my identity in Jesus is not based on what I do or don't do.

(Jesus) "...has identified us as his own by placing the Holy Spirit in our hearts as the first installment that guarantees everything he has promised us." 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 (p.882)

2. Rest in what He has done.

"When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing." Galatians 3:13 (p.891)

"He did this so we would praise and glorify him." Ephesians 1:14 (p.895)

Next Step: _____ Daily prayer: *"Thank You Jesus, that my identity in You is sealed through Your blood."*



ONE VOICE

Discussion/Groups Guide from the Weekend Talk
From the Weekend Talk of April 24-25, 2021

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.

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

Conversation Starters

- When you make a purchase do you look to see what the guarantee is for the item? Why is a guarantee important?
- Did you ever go up to someone and start a conversation and it turned out to be someone completely different? What did you both do when you found out - laugh or get embarrassed and quietly walk away?
- Have you ever been a victim of identity theft or have you had your Facebook or something similar hacked? How did it feel and what did you do?
- Have you ever been given a task to do that was extremely uncomfortable or difficult?
 - Why was it uncomfortable? Did you do it?

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 the Weekend Talk, Pastor Jeff Love encouraged us to remember that...

- ***My Identity In Jesus Cannot Be Stolen.***
 - Read Genesis 22:1-14 (p.17); John 3:16 (p.811); 1 Corinthians 11:25 (p.877); and Ephesians 1:13-14 (p.895).
 - The Abraham/Isaac account is amazing in demonstrating that Abraham's faith (Genesis 22) was rock solid.
 - While our serving today does not involve bloodshed - what can you do for Jesus now, saying "Here I am" to Him?
 - Have you ever been asked to sacrifice something? (not an animal, but maybe a possession or a habit or a relationship?)
 - See also John 14:15.
 - Share an example of when your faith led to obedience.
 - Talk about it:

- Once you become a Follower of Jesus, Satan will come alongside, when you least expect it and tell you that you have failed God. He will want you to, effectively, put Christ back on the cross and tell you the lie that you can no longer be forgiven.
 - Have you experienced this? When?
 - What do you do when confronted with those kinds of thoughts?
 - Here's a tip: To guard against this attack: Read Scripture, Pray, and Fellowship with other believers. (RPF).
- Pastor Steve Tanner spoke about praying scripture a few weeks ago. In order to pray scripture, you need to know scripture.
 - That's why reading your Bible and being part of a Life Group helps you get stronger and grow in Jesus.
- See also John 10:10 (p.819).
 - What Jesus did for our salvation has been "finished" and we need to accept that gift. However, Satan is still around, so we need daily prayer to fight back.

Jeff challenged us to:

1. Recognize my identity in Jesus is not based on what I do or don't do. (2 Corinthians 1:20–22 (p.882))

- Who did the "heavy lifting" for our salvation?
 - Why is it significant that our identity in Jesus is NOT up to us?
- How has God identified us?
- What else has God done for/with us?

2. Rest in What He has done. (Galatians 3:13 (p.891); Ephesians 1:14 (p.895))

- What did Jesus do?
- Sin separates us from God. We need the blood/cross of Jesus daily to help bridge that gap.
 - See also Romans 3:23-24 (p.859).
- How do you "rest" in what He has done? What does that mean?

Digging Deeper

- There is nothing we can do to earn our salvation - It has been done once and for all by Jesus. It is a one-time offer and a one-time act of repentance. Once we accept Jesus on confession of our sin, we are forgiven. But we do go on sinning and this is where the lie comes in to try to drive a wedge between us and God.
 - See Hebrews 10:1, 10-12 (p.925)
- There is a difference between a "salvation" prayer of repentance and daily repentance. Take a look at the following verses:
 - Romans 10:9-10 (p.864)
 - Hebrews 13:5b (p.928)
 - Matthew 6:11-12 (p.737)
 - Romans 8:31-39 (p. 863)

- Psalm 12:6 (p. 419)
- Psalm 24:4-5 (p.424)
- Psalm 51:10 (p.436)

- In your daily time with God read through the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 (p.737). Pause after each verse to reflect.

- Going Old School
 - There is a wonderful old hymn that speaks to our identity in Jesus: *We rest on Thee our shield and our defender* - check it out it has some wonderful lines: *We go not forth alone against the foe; Strong in Thy strength, safe in Thy keeping tender. We rest on Thee, and in Thy Name we go; We go in faith, our own great weakness feeling, And needing more each day Thy grace to know: Yet from our hearts a song of triumph peal.*

Next Step

My Next Step: Daily prayer: *"Thank You Jesus, that my identity in You is sealed through Your blood.*

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

What's Ahead

- ***This weekend we begin a new series: "Change of Heart."*** *What does it take to grow as a follower of Jesus? We have to open our hearts, allow the seed of God's Word to be planted there, and share it with others through discipleship.*
- ***Our Life Group Semester wraps up the week of May 2.*** So, for example, if your Group meets on Tuesdays, your final scheduled meeting is May 4. Of course, many groups will continue to plan gatherings over the summer. Stay in touch with your Group to see what the plans are.
- ***Have you signed up for our Alive Church Newsletter?***
 - Sign up here: 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 also have a Kids Edition of the Bible, as well.