



Sermon Notes: Who You Say I Am

1. The reversal of our identity.

- a. Quit looking inward (to self) and outward (to society) for validation; look upward.
- b. Quit basing your sense of self-worth on what you have and do; start basing it on who has you and what he's done for you.
- c. Quit living as if you're defined by who you were, forgetting who God says you are.

Diagnostic: When I live like a _____, I'm living in bondage to _____, forgetting the _____ I have in Christ.

2. The reality of our identity.

- a. You are defined by God's grace toward you.
- b. You are defined by how God sees you.
- c. You are defined by who you are in relationship to God and to other believers.

3. The ramifications of our identity.

- a. You are honest about yourself.
- b. You are humble and bold.
- c. You work and rest.
- d. You love and accept others, especially the marginalized.



Gospel Applications: Who You Say I Am

1. Review: Do you tend to look *inward* for validation or *outward*? Who/what are you recognizing as your top 3-5 go-to sources for validation?
2. Practically, why do you think we find it harder (or less instinctive) to look *upward* to God for validation and our sense of self-worth?
3. What are some layers of your identity that are dependent upon things you can (or will!) lose? What are some things you have in Christ, and what are some things he's done for you, that are significantly more resilient and reliable than the things you just listed?
4. Refer to the "living in the past" diagnostic that was shared with you:

When I live like a _____, I'm living in bondage to _____, forgetting the _____ I have in Christ.

- First, what are some former/fallen/false identities you tend to lapse into over and over again?
 - Second, what are you living *as if* you're in bondage to with each of these identities?
 - Third, what are you forgetting about your real identity in Christ when you live in bondage to these former/fallen/false identities?
5. What new Gospel insights did you gain by doing the previous exercise?
 6. What's an area of your life where you're defining yourself or your self-worth in terms of a meritocracy? How does the grace of God speak to that?
 7. What's one thing you need to believe from the Bible about how God says he views you in Christ? How do you think you'd be changed by consistently remembering and trusting that truth?
 8. What one thing will you do with this message this week?