

Module 3

# Your Gospel Identity







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"We are a Family of Missionary Servants, sent as Disciples who make disciples."



We are baptized into the name of the Father.

**John 1:12-13** "Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God."

**2 Corinthians 6:18** *"*And, I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

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**Hebrews 2:11** "Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters."

We are baptized into the name of the Son.

We have entered into an identity relationship with Jesus. He is not only our brother, he is also our King. And we are now his servants who serve others as a way of life, following Jesus' ultimate example on the Cross. **Being a servant is a part of our renewed identity.** 

**Philippians 2:5-11** <u>"In your relationships with one another</u>, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

### If Jesus is our Lord—our King—then we are his SERVANTS.

Because we have been so radically and perfectly served at the point of our greatest need by Jesus on the cross, we too now can live out our renewed identity in Christ as servants.

We are baptized into the name of the Holy Spirit.

#### John 20:21-22

<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Throughout the Bible, the Holy Spirit is the sending agent of the Church. He empowered Jesus while on Earth, he guided and comforted the early Church, and his indwelling presence transforms or identity into "sent ones", literally *missionaries*. **Sent-ness is not a location thing... it's and IDENTITY thing!** 

# DO=BE

The way of the world is: We do things (perform, serve, work etc.) to have value in the eyes of our family, friends, parents, spouse, siblings, boss, pastor etc. If we do a good enough job and are perceived as valuable, then people will want us around. We will be wanted. Out of this activity we often form our identity. What we DO has led to who we ARE. **Or at least we think it has...** But there is a huge problem with this, it is terribly dangerous, it eventually crushes us, and it goes against how God now sees us.

# Don't believe the DO=BE lies anymore.

If we are in Christ, if we are Christians, then we have a new... or rather **Renewed identity** based on who God is...

And not based on what we DO...but on what Jesus DID

And not based on who we WERE but in who who now ARE in Christ

# Key Takeaways From This Lesson

1. How would your life change if you lived primarily out of your identity in Christ, as an image bearer of God?

2. How would your relationships change if you viewed and treated others based on their identity as image bearers of God?

3. How would our lives, our families, and churches change if we believed our new identity and began to live like a family of missionary servants?

4. How would your prayers to God change if you fully believed that he was your Daddy and you were his dearly loved child?

5. What shifts in your heart as you begin to believe that God has given you a family – his family – to walk through all of life with?

6. How could your "Christian life" begin to look more like "family life"?

8. How much of a servant are you? How would taking on the role of a servant change the way you interact with friends, parents, spouse, children, neighbors, and coworkers?

# **Action Steps**

1. Share the truth and this teaching on our trinitarian identity with at least one other person right away. Maybe teach this to your family or a group of leaders.

When specifically will you do this, with who? \_\_\_\_\_

### Finish these sentences in light of God's love:

(Take your time. The fuller your answer, the deeper this will begin to sink into your heart.)

Before Christ, my identity and self-worth was most shaped by\_\_\_\_\_

Now, because of the Gospel I am\_\_\_\_\_\_.

As a Christian, I thought it was important that I \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ in order to please God.

Now I know Jesus did everything that was needed to pay for my sin and secure the Father's acceptance on my behalf, so I can\_\_\_\_\_

# How amazing to think that we are now part of the family of our eternal God!

As a child of God I never have to \_\_\_\_\_

As a child of God I can always\_\_\_\_\_

# **Additional Notes:**