

UN ██████████ IDENTIFIED

UNCOVERING THE TRUTH OF WHO WE REALLY ARE

“And I will give you a new heart and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes and be careful to obey My rules.” - Ezekiel 36:26-27

We crave an identity. A name. Something that will give us the worth, value, and significance we so desire. But more often than not, we feel the exact opposite. Lost. Insignificant. Worthless. Unidentified.

We convince ourselves that there has to be something more to life because, deep down, we all long to identify with something bigger than ourselves. We try to fill this void with many things - what we do, say, think, wear, who we date...you name it. But it never satisfies us. We never find our true selves.

That's because the truth of who we really are will never be found in anything this world can offer. It's in a Person. In the very beginning, God stamped us with His very own identity. He made us in His own image and gave us inherent worth, value, and significance. And even though it was our own sin that separated us from our God-given identity, Jesus came to identify with sinners so that we can be reidentified in Him. When we identify with His death, we are called to live as He did so that we can also identify with His resurrection and eternal life. And when we discover God's plan behind all this, we realize that He has identified us for a purpose much greater than we could ever imagine.

Teach *UNIDENTIFIED* and help your students uncover the truth that they can have an eternal, fulfilling, and purposeful identity in Christ alone.

SESSION 1: IDENTIFYING THE ██████████ PROBLEM

WHAT WE WANT STUDENTS TO LEARN: Students will learn why we all lack a true, purposeful identity, where we are meant to find one, and how they can go about doing so.

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:26-27, 3:1-19; John 1:1-3, 14

SESSION SNAPSHOT: Students are not strangers to the fact that they lack an identity. They long for something to give them worth, value, importance, and significance, but often, they feel the opposite...unidentified. God created all of us in His image, gave us His name, and declared us worthy, priceless, and significant, so why don't we feel that way? We

all struggle with this problem of being and feeling unidentified, but because Jesus took on flesh and dwelt among us, we can find our rightful identity in Him. In this session, your students will discover this truth and learn how it changes everything they do.

SESSION 2: UNIDENTIFIED FROM ██████████ SIN

WHAT WE WANT STUDENTS TO LEARN: Students will discover that the sinful nature we all inherit not only takes away our identity in God but also stamps us with an identity of its own. Students will learn that, while they are dead in sin, they can be raised with Christ and unidentified from their sin by grace through faith.

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 2:1-10, Acts 9:1-15

SESSION SNAPSHOT: We all know what it's like to have something follow us around and haunt us - a bad driving record, an embarrassing memory, or even a bad nickname. We can often be known and identified by things we'd rather forget. In a similar way, the sinful nature we all inherit not only takes away our God-given identity but also gives us an identity of its own. In this session, your students will wrestle with what it means to be dead in sin while also grasping the truth that they can be raised with Christ and unidentified from their sin because of His great love and mercy.

SESSION 3: IDENTIFYING ██████████ WITH DEATH

WHAT WE WANT STUDENTS TO LEARN: Students will learn that being reidentified in Christ, while a free gift, brings responsibilities along with it. They will discover that their identity in Christ requires them to die to themselves, take up their cross daily, and identify with Jesus' death so that they may have eternal life.

SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:5-11; Luke 9:23-25

SESSION SNAPSHOT: When we're freed from sin and reidentified in Christ, we can sometimes be tempted to live however we want to. We can become obsessed with elevating, caring for, and looking out for only ourselves. However, that's not how God would have us live in the identity He's given us. When we're identified in Christ, we're identified with all of Him, including even His death. This is why Jesus says it's necessary for us to deny ourselves and take up our cross daily to follow Him. Our sinful selves have to be put to death every day because when we die to ourselves and identify with Jesus' death, we get to identify with His resurrection too.

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SESSION 4: IDENTIFIED ██████████ FOR A PURPOSE

WHAT WE WANT STUDENTS TO LEARN: Students will learn that God gives them a new identity for the purpose of fulfilling His mission on Earth. Even though they may believe they are unqualified to participate in God's work, they will discover that Jesus has been given all authority, and His power will work through them to fulfill the purpose He gives us.

SCRIPTURE: John 3:16-17; Matt. 28:16-20

SESSION SNAPSHOT: We all have big dreams. We have passions and goals, and we can spend a lot of time planning out exactly how we're going to accomplish them. The world tells students that they need to find their purpose in life and do whatever it takes to fulfill it, but if their identity is in Christ, they won't need to look for long. God's mission in the world has always been to save it through His Son, Jesus, and when we're identified in Him, we get to participate in His work. We may feel ill-equipped or unqualified, but because our identity is in the One who has been given all authority in heaven and on earth, we are empowered to be His witnesses even to the end of the earth.

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