

STUDY GUIDE: “New Identity”

Discussion Starters

1. Do you have a defining moment from your past that people know you from? (Such as lead chair in the orchestra, Valedictorian, Little League MVP, etc.)

2. Do you believe that our culture is dominated by status and achievements? Why or why not?

Study

3. In preparation for this study read: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Philippians 3:1-14, Ephesians 3:7-13, 1 Corinthians 15:9-11, 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Concordance. Strong's Concordance is a good tool and Blueletterbible.org is a good tool to use for online study. I have also included Strong's Reference numbers to assist you. The letter before the reference pertains to the original language (H-Hebrew, G-Greek).

If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

4. Define the following words or terms. Note for each of them how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage.

--“least” (Ephesians 3:8 Strong's Reference # g1646)—

--“recognize” (2 Corinthians 5:16 Strong's Reference # g6063)—

--“loss” (Philippians 3:7 Strong's Reference # g2209)—

--“gain” (Philippians 3:7 Strong's Reference # g2771)—

5. What does it mean that Jesus is our righteousness? (1 Corinthians 1:30)

6. What does it mean that Jesus is our redemption? (1 Corinthians 1:30)

7. What does it mean that Jesus is our sanctification? (1 Corinthians 1:30)

Taking It Home

8. Should we still pursue excellence and accomplishments if we are identified by Jesus' accomplishments? (why or why not?)

9. How can you live in a way that reflects having an identity in Christ?