

## **Christian Growth**

### **Week 3: New Identity in Christ**

#### **Introduction**

In Week One we learned that we have a new standing before God because we are “in Christ.”

We stand confidently as children of God with all the privileges that come with that standing.

In Paul's letters, he refers to this truth at least 126 times (in the identity sense):

“in Christ” occurs 82 times; “in him” occurs 20 times; “with Christ” occurs 12 times;

“with him” occurs 12 times

NLT translates “in Christ,” in various ways, including: “united with Christ,” “through Christ,” “belong to Christ.” Therefore, the NLT loses some of the impact Paul intended this phrase to carry. If you read NLT, remember this important aspect of the language which points to our intimate identification with Christ and check the NASB.

This week we will further explore the truth of our New Identity in Christ.

Tonight's goals:

- To learn *who we are* and *what we have* if we are “in Christ.”
- To learn how our new identity gives us the capacity to be freed from slavery to sin.

#### **The Importance of our New Identity in Christ**

When I ask, “Who are you?” what comes to mind? We all have a sense of identity; a sense of self. Our identity develops throughout our lives, and is affected by our upbringing, education, and life experiences.

From the time of early childhood people ask, “What do you want *to be* when you grow up?” Inevitably, most people end up defining their identity in functional terms: I'm a carpenter, or an attorney, or a nurse, or a plumber. Their job or career ends up being who they are and not just what they do for a living.

2 Cor. 5:17\* Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. (NASB)

- The basis for this new standing: being “in Christ”
- The reality of this new standing: the old things passed away; behold new things have come.

#### ***Why is understanding our new identity so important?***

IDENTITY PRECEDES AND AFFECTS BEHAVIOR (also attitudes, emotions, values, etc.). Identity formation is a complex process, and what we need to understand is that what we do flows from who we are. The way we view ourselves is the strongest influence on the way we behave: the good and the bad.

EG: What if you believed you were an animal without a spirit? What dictates your behavior? Animal instincts or drives. How would you judge what is right or wrong? Whatever met your needs would be right? What basis would you have for helping other people/animals? Only as much as it would be to your benefit.

As people who are “in Christ” we are fundamentally changed, and based on this *identity change*, we can live like new people:

- Jesus in Luke 6:45 “A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. What you say flows from what is in your heart.” (NASB)
- Last week we learned about our deeply imbedded sin nature and the battle our sin nature wages within us. We sin because we are sinners, and the only way to gain victory is to live like the new people who are now, “in Christ.”
- *Illustration:* In many countries children grow up on the streets. They sleep wherever they can. They eat whatever they can find. They fight to survive, and most often die young. Imagine taking a trip to Haiti, and adopting one of these children: a 12-year-old boy. Then returning to your home. You take him to the grocery and his eyes grow wide as he looks at the coolers packed with produce. What do you think he will do as he passes the stack of bananas? Of course, he’ll stick one in his shirt.
  - Why does he steal? He believes he must steal to survive; he’s a street kid—a survivor.
  - What is your strategy to help him overcome his stealing?
    - Will you teach him the laws about shop-lifting?
    - Take him to visit a courtroom or prison?
    - Threaten him with punishment?

These approaches may work temporarily, but in the long run he will still believe: “I have to look out for myself, because no one else will. I’m a street kid/survivor.”

The only solution that will provide lasting results is to teach him, *through his experience*, that you love him and will always provide for him.

My goal as his father: My son will come to understand and believe that *he is my son* and *I will provide* what he needs.

When he believes that, he will be at peace, and will stop stealing.

He will stop stealing as a *side effect* of believing that he is my son.

God has the exact same goal for us. He wants us to understand and believe that we are his children, because we are in Christ, and have everything he graciously provides. If we believe that, we can be at peace, and stop trying to provide for ourselves the things God promises to provide.

- *Illustration-* I’m not sure we need one here.

EG- Women with eating disorders. They abuse themselves to gain a body image that they believe others expect. They are chronically dissatisfied with who they are. No health education or threats of dire consequences will help them over the long haul. Lasting victory will occur only when they come to believe in their new identity. As a daughter who is loved and cherished by her Father in heaven, she need not concern herself with the opinions of her peers. Then she can look at herself in the mirror and see herself as a daughter of Christ.

### **Key aspects of our New Identity (Eph. 1:3-14\*\*,2; Col. 2; ROM 6)**

The New Testament refers to dozens of aspects of our new identity in Christ. See Dennis McCallum, *Walking In Victory*, pp. 24,25—which refers to 16 aspects. See Neil Anderson, *Victory Over The Darkness*, pp. 45-47, 57-59—which refers to 68 aspects. We

want you to be familiar with the main passages that distill our new identity, and the key aspects of this new identity. **THIS WILL BE ON THE TEST!**

### **See New Identity Worksheet**

Read through the scriptures in the first column and complete the column titled: **RESULTING SPIRITUAL PROVISION**. (For teachers, use the worksheet that has the left three columns blank.)

Adoption, as Eph. 1:5 depicts, is the foundational feature of our new identity throughout the New Testament. (E.G- Jn. 1:12; Gal. 4:4-6; Rom. 8:15-17) We have all of the other provisions described below *because* we are now God's children.

God meets our deepest needs through our New Identity in Christ. To the extent that we are ignorant of and/or don't appropriate this, we will go on suffering as needlessly "needy" people, trying to get other people/things to meet our needs, being disappointed by them when they fail to deliver, etc. (E.G. We will be no different than my adopted Haitian son who continues to steal food, even though his refrigerator and stomach are full.)

This chart meets our first goal for tonight's study: To learn *who we are* and *what we have* if we are "in Christ." Now let's turn to the second goal: To learn how our new identity gives us the capacity to be freed from slavery to sin.

### **Freedom from Slavery to Sin**

There are two approaches to dealing with sin:

1. Legalism- "You know it's wrong, so just stop sinning."

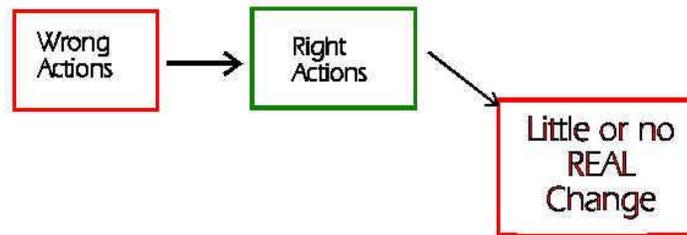
Legalism is the only way without a relationship with God. No matter if we are religious or non-religious, the only way we know to change ourselves is by our own power.

Unfortunately, many Christians continue to live with this orientation toward their sin, themselves, and God.

They emphasize ethics and behavior without laying the proper foundation of identity. Cover "[ACTIONS/BELIEFS](#)" **OVERHEAD** (apply "throw away kid" example to this): The legalist simply tries to replace wrong actions with right actions.

Fear and threat motivate the legalistic person, and he constantly compares himself to others.

Legalism causes frustration, anxiety, alienation from others and alienation from God. The tragedy is that many Christians who are "in Christ," don't experience the joy and peace of living "in Christ" as a child of God, because they fail to apprehend this central truth of God's word.

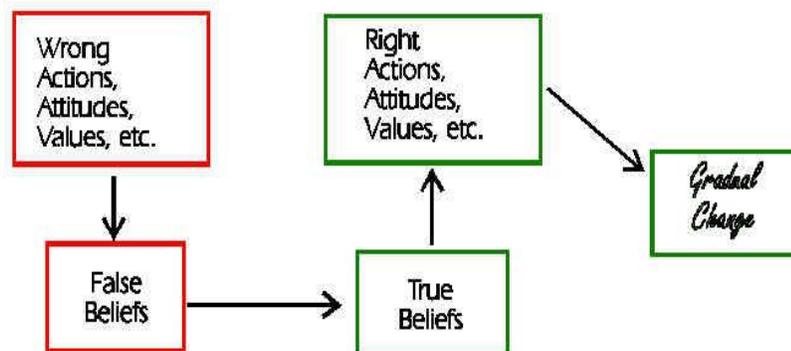


Jesus confronts the legalistic approach in Matt. 23:25,26 “What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence! <sup>26</sup> You blind Pharisee! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish,\* and then the outside will become clean, too.”

## 2. Biblical Approach

“I am a new person in Christ, and by his power, I can change.”

The biblical starting point for a changed life is not to "try harder", but to appropriate our new identity in Christ. (Again, refer to the overhead)



**NEED TO CHANGE FALSE BELIEFS TO “FALSE IDENTITY BELIEFS—ALSO TRUE BLOCK.**

Probably need to illustrate this with an example when we present it first time. Use the eating disorder example and the Haitian son.

The New Testament order is *not* "Do in order to be," *but instead*, "Act consistently with who you are."

In our own life, and in working with others, we need to look deeper than the behavioral symptoms and see the connection between the behaviors and the identity issues.

We must ask the question: *Why do I* \_\_\_\_\_ (steal, lose my temper, boast, etc.)?

We must understand that our behavior is the “tip of the iceberg.” The source of the behavior (ie sin) is in my heart and wrapped up with my false beliefs about my identity. This is necessary for deep, lasting change.

We should prayerfully identify our false identity beliefs and choose to replace them with the truth about our identity. Then, we should ask God to show us what it would look like to act on our new identity in this situation.

## **Applying/Appropriating our New Identity (Romans 6:6,11,13\*\*): Know, Consider, Present**

Read Romans 6:6-13 in NASB.

*Get your bible out and mark this up. You need to know this passage and we will be coming back to it often so you need this reference point.*

This is the key biblical passage that teaches the above scenario of spiritual growth.

Appropriation is *our* role in applying our new identity in an ongoing and practical way.

Appropriation consists of three sequential steps, which Paul outlines in ROM 6.

### **1st — "Know"**

Rom. 6:6\*. "knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin;"

- "Our old self was crucified with Him"- In Romans 6 Paul points to the spiritual reality of a new spiritual life. He describes it here through death and resurrection. Christians die with Christ and are resurrected with him. This indicates the new spiritual birth, or what Paul calls a "new creature (creation)" in 2 Corinthians 5:17\*.

Our old identity (in Adam) has been completely obliterated; it no longer exists. See also Jn. 3:3,5; Col. 3:3; 2 Cor. 5:17.

- "that our body of sin might be done away with" "Body of sin" refers not to our old identity, but to our *sin-nature*. "Done away with" (*katargeo*) can mean this, but other passages clearly teach that Christians still have a sin-nature (ROM 7:17). It should therefore be translated here "made powerless" (NASB margin) or (better) "put out of authority" (see ROM 7:2 - ". . . she is *released from* the law . . .")
- "that we should no longer be slaves to sin" presents one goal of our life as new creatures: that we no longer live as slaves to sin.

"Knowing" means learning what the Bible teaches about our new identity, and regularly remembering/reflecting on it (2 Pet. 1:12,13,15).

**Summary: Our old identity has been destroyed, so that our sin nature has been put out of authority over us.**

*Illustration:* The United States abolished slavery when the Thirteenth Amendment became law on Dec. 18, 1865. The legal identity of all slaves instantly changed. Their old identity as property/slaves was "killed." They received a new legal identity as citizens. Why was this important? Because this changed their relationship to their previous owners. Their previous owners continued to exist, but their authority over them was now removed, so that they were no longer legally obliged to live as slaves.

How important was this knowledge? Do you know that thousands of them continued to live out their lives as slaves because their ex-masters successfully kept this information from them?

Many Christians (perhaps you) assume that though they are forgiven for their sins, there is no basis for deep-seated change in their lives. If we don't know that we have been freed from the authority of our sin-nature, we will try to sanctify ourselves by the flesh, leading either to self-righteous self-deception, or fatalistic honesty about our sins.

Therefore, we need to study this truth until we understand it, ask God to illuminate it so we see its significance in our lives, meditate on it, remind ourselves of it, etc. Read and reread books about it. Remember Romans 12:2- "...transformed by the renewing of your minds."

We must also ground young Christians in this truth as soon as possible so that they can begin to challenge their view of their identity and replace it with God's. This needs to be a key and ongoing aspect to our discipling relationships. We also need to pray that God will give us his view on the people around us.

## 2nd — "Consider"

Rom. 6:11\* Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Choosing to affirm what God says about our identity in spite of all the contrary feelings, thoughts, past behavioral evidence, other people's opinions, etc.

EG. "I feel unappreciated." The question is, **Why do I feel unappreciated?**

I feel unappreciated because people at work have not recognized my efforts, and I believe that I must have their approval to be whole; this is a false identity belief!

Our new identity contradicts this feeling through the truth that I am whole because I am a child of God, and he bestows value on me.

Which will you *choose* to believe: what your feelings tell you, or what you "know" is true?

This choice is the essence of "considering."

"Consider" (*logizomai*) is an accounting term—it often refers to making an accurate ledger entry.

You enter an amount into the ledger *because* it has been deposited, *not* that you enter the amount so that it will be deposited. My beliefs don't create reality; they should conform to reality.

Illustration: Let's assume that you have never had more than \$150 in your checking account.

Suddenly, a trusted friend informs you that he has deposited \$100,000 into your account.

You check with the bank and ascertain that this is indeed the case. How important is it that you enter that amount in your check ledger, and believe that entry? What if you listened instead to your feelings or your family members who keep telling you that you only have \$150? If you want to reap the benefit of the \$100,000, you have to choose to believe the actual amount! Otherwise, you could go on living as though you were poor!

This means that we monitor our thought-lives, become aware of false identity beliefs as God exposes them, and choose to replace those false identity beliefs with what God says is true (2 Cor. 10:5).

We should ask the Lord to sensitize us to these lies, and help us to see how our new identity applies in specific areas. **THIS IS THE MISSING STEP FOR MANY CHRISTIANS!** Often we need other mature Christians to help us do this.

(D. M. Lloyd-Jones) "...we must talk to ourselves instead of allowing 'ourselves' to talk to us! Do you realize what that means? I suggest that the main trouble in this whole matter of spiritual depression in a sense is this, that we allow our self to talk to us instead of talking to our self. Am I just trying to be deliberately paradoxical? Far from it. This is the very essence of wisdom in this matter. Have you realized that most of your unhappiness in life is due to the fact that you are listening to yourself instead of talking to yourself? Take those thoughts that come to you the moment you wake up in the morning. You have not originated them, but they start talking to you, they bring back the problems of yesterday, etc. Somebody is talking. Who is talking to you? Your self is talking to you. Now this man's treatment was this; instead of allowing this self to talk to him, he starts talking to himself. 'Why art thou

cast down, O my soul?' he asks. His soul had been depressing him, crushing him. So he stands up and says: 'Self, listen for moment, I will speak to you'. Do you know what I mean? If you do not, you have had but little experience.

The main art in the matter of spiritual living is to know how to handle yourself. You have to take yourself in hand, you have to address yourself, preach to yourself, question yourself. You must say to your soul: 'Why are you cast down'—what business have you to be disquieted? You must turn on yourself, upbraid yourself, condemn yourself, exhort yourself, and say to yourself; 'Hope you in God'—instead of muttering in this depressed unhappy way. And then you must go on to remind yourself of God, Who God is, and what God is and what God has done and what God has pledged Himself to do. Then having done that, end on this great note: defy yourself, and defy other people, and defy the devil and the whole world, and say with this man: 'I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance, who is also the health of my countenance and my God'. (D. M. Lloyd-Jones, *Spiritual Depression: Its Causes and Cure* [Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1982], pp. 20,21.)

Our culture discourages this type of mental and spiritual engagement.

- Some believe that any self-critical thinking is psychologically harmful.
- Because we are over-stimulated with media and the frenetic pace of life, we do not engage in healthy introspection.

**The Thirteenth Amendment:** How important was it for those ex-slaves who knew about the Thirteenth Amendment to choose to "consider" that they actually were free citizens? How difficult was it for them to choose to "consider" this—especially when their own thoughts and feelings, their ex-owners, said "You're nothing but a slave. You always have been a slave, and you always will be a slave."

Here is an even greater tragedy than the suppression of the news: thousands of ex-slaves knew about the Thirteenth Amendment, yet still lived out the rest of their lives as slaves, because they didn't choose to believe what was true of them.

How important is it for you as a Christian to choose to believe that you are no longer a slave to sin? How many of us continue to live as slaves, not because we don't know this truth, but because we don't choose against our feelings and previous experience to believe it? If we passively respond, our "knowing" will not profit us.

This is why every day, we should consciously recall and remind ourselves of what is true about us in this area: "I am free from sin's authority and therefore able to change."

This is why especially when we are confronted by evidence to the contrary through failure, accusation, etc., it is so important to choose to reject that conclusion and instead agree with God that "he has set me free from sin's authority and that his power is progressively changing my life as I continue to believe what he says and cooperate with him."

It is also essential, when helping Christians who are struggling in a sin area, to help them consider how their new identity specifically applies to the area and what lies about their identity they were believing. Not counseling in this manner will lead to a legalistic approach to their change.

This is a life-long battle!

### **3rd—Present**

ROM. 6:13\* "...and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God." (NASB)

As God's children we have the prospect of having radically transformed lives. As those who are "alive from the dead" (new people) we can be instruments of righteousness--agents of God's love and mercy, and his presence in this world.

Eph. 4:28 He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need. (NASB)

- Paul describes a radically transformed life: from crime to generosity.

(Note: "Walking in Victory" does not differentiate between "consider" and "present" to the extent we will in the notes that follow.)

"Presenting" usually involves both a negative and positive step.

- It is necessary to choose to *turn away from* immoral actions or habits (Vs 13a: "do not go on presenting yourselves to sin . . .")
- It is also necessary to *turn to* God and submit to his will (Vs 13b: ". . . but present yourselves to God . . .").
- Real change involves the willingness to say "No!" (e.g., STAYING OUT OF SEXUALLY TEMPTING SITUATIONS)—but this is ultimately futile unless we also say "Yes!" to the ways that expose us to God's life-changing power. This is the "Resist-Replace" principle. Principle is in 2 Tim. 2:22- "Flee youthful lusts and pursue righteousness.

**Thirteenth Amendment:** Who were the ex-slaves who actually experienced a life of increasing freedom? They were the ones who knew about the Thirteenth Amendment, who chose to consider it to be true in spite of the contrary input of their ex-masters, their memories, etc.—and what else? Who actually began to refuse the orders of their ex-masters *and* instead walked off the "security" of the plantations and put themselves in places where the power of the government supported their freedom (MOVED TO NORTHERN CITIES; FOUND PAYING EMPLOYERS). It was this scary risk, based on the previous two steps, that resulted in increasing experiential freedom for them.

Who are the Christians who experience a life of increasing freedom from slavery to sin?

The ones who:

- *know* as per Vs 6 and...
- *consider* it to be the truth about them in spite of what their sin-natures, Satan, previous experiences and others tell them—and finally, who on that basis choose not to submit to moral defeat in their lives and instead...
- *present* themselves to God in ways that allow his power to change their lives.

### Complete the New Identity Worksheet

Symptoms of not "knowing", "considering", and/or "presenting"

Examples of how to "present."

In each case work through the process of know, consider present and refer to the diagram of the Biblical approach to dealing with sin.

#### Other Examples:

**You are angry** with a person for not paying enough attention to you. The fact is that they ARE being unloving and insensitive. At a teaching, you learn (*Know*) that God will meet all of your love needs and that we should therefore not look to other people to do this. Realizing that this is what you have been doing, you choose to affirm that God will provide for you in this area (*Consider*). Now what would it look like to *present* ourselves based on this identity

truth? (choose not to lash out or punish with silence, etc.; instead choose to freely give to that person in some way; address their insensitivity for their good).

**You are depressed** and resentful because of how much more gifted in a certain area your friend is than you are. As you study 1 Cor. 12, you realize that God has gifted you to play a unique role in his Body (*Know*). You agree that the difference between you and your friend in gifted areas is part of God's design rather than you getting the short end of the stick (*Consider*). Now what would it look like to *Present* ourselves on this identity truth? (thank God for your friend's contribution; compliment, encourage, and promote your friend's accomplishments in that area; thank God for what he has shown that you can do for him, and look for opportunities to serve in that area).

**Sensuality:** practically avoiding tempting situations (Resist) + developing Christ-centered love relationships (Replace)—see 1 Thess. 4:3-10; 2 Tim. 2:22

**Materialism:** practically turning from shopping binges when depressed, etc. (Resist) + developing your ministry role (Replace)—1 Tim. 6:11

**I'm depressed** so I think I'll just stay home tonight rather than going to home church: I realize that I am a part of the body and should seek fellowship + I go with the prayer that God use my gifts to edify others.

Again, when helping other Christians grow, our counsel should include helping them see clearly what presenting themselves to God (choosing to act) in this area based on their new identity (see above) would look like.

### Conclusion:

Tonight's goals:

- To learn *who we are* and *what we have* if we are "in Christ."
- To learn how our new identity gives us the capacity to be freed from slavery to sin.

Refer back to "Throwaway" kid. If 5 years later, he is behaving and "feeling" like he really is your son and part of the family, it will be because he took these steps on a more and more consistent basis. Conversely, if 5 years later he has run away and is living on the street (though still legally adopted into your family), it will be because he did not take these steps .

..

When we confront a new sin area for the first time, we often need to go through the "Know, Consider, Present" process in almost a systematic, yet prayerful manner—repeatedly. As God's Spirit changes our character through this process, we will find ourselves going through the same process, but much more quickly with a deeper sense of dependence on God working through us. What once were areas of repetitive failures in our character, are now areas of substantial (though usually not complete) victory. This process of working through deep-seated issues may take years of walking in the Spirit.

### Memory Verses

2 Corinthians 5:17\*

Eph. 1:3-14\*\*

Romans 6:6,11,13\*\*

### Homework

Prayerfully consider an area of recurrent sin in your life and work through the process from know, consider, present:

1. Why do I \_\_\_\_\_? What are the false identity beliefs that drive my sin?

2. What are the True Identity beliefs that contradict my false belief system?
  3. How is God calling me to Present my members as “instruments of righteousness?”
- It might be helpful to discuss this with a trusted friend.

McCallum, *Walking in Victory*, pgs. 18-45. Read and write response to the material.

### New Identity Worksheet

NEW IDENTITY IN CHRIST	PERSONAL NEEDS MET	EMOTIONAL/ BEHAVIORAL SYMPTOMS OF NOT APPLYING THE NEW IDENTITY	ACTION STEPS
<p><b>Delivered from Sin Nature's authority</b> (Rom. 6:6 old self crucified/ body of sin done away with; Col. 2:11,12 body of flesh has been removed)</p>	<p>Freedom from sin's control (e.g. my Dad's voice)</p>	<p>Helplessness and <b>fatalism</b> in dealing with sin; viewing sin <b>superficially</b></p> <p>(two ways of coping with inability to have real victory – defeat or denial)</p>	<p><b>Openness</b> about your besetting sins Patient <b>cooperation with God's</b> strategy to change (respond to the issues he prioritizes) <b>Other-centered focus</b> despite sins (e.g. couple fighting, need to pull out of reg. Fellowship and ministry and focus on their marriage – No - stay in ministry!) Affirming the old man dominated by sin is gone</p>
<p><b>Adoption as God's child</b> (Eph 1:5 he predestined us to adoption as sons)</p>	<p><b>Belonging: security</b> in this life</p>	<p>Idolatrous human relationships (try to get that sense of belonging from them) Material anxiety (throw away child) <b>Fear of rejection</b> (this needs to be on our minds when we are witnessing) <b>Man pleasing</b> (better in square above?)</p>	<p><b>Loving discipline &amp; witnessing</b> (putting relationships at risk at times in order to obey God) <b>Financial giving</b></p>
<p><b>Forgiveness through Jesus death for sin</b> (Eph 1:7; Col 2:13,14 – certificate of debt)</p>	<p><b>Acceptance apart from performance</b> (this takes a long time to learn – friends, work, family don't always treat us this way)</p>	<p><b>Destructive reactions to guilt feelings</b> (defensiveness, withdrawal, preoccupation with your wrongs) <b>Resentment, bitterness toward others</b></p>	<p><b>Extending forgiveness</b> to others <b>Honesty</b> with others about our sin (God often wants us to experience his grace and compassion through other people)</p>
<p><b>Unique role in God's purpose</b> (Eph 1:9,10 – he made known to us the mystery of his will – God has let us in on his plan to reconcile a broken creation back to himself;</p>	<p><b>Significance</b> (e.g. Andy – hospitality)</p>	<p><b>Unhealthy comparison to others</b> (seek significance relative to others) <b>Vulnerable to career identity</b> (again – looking to things/ people to fill the void) <b>Reactive to critique of</b></p>	<p><b>Focused ministry involvement</b> (one of the most rewarding parts of our Christian walk – identifying a role God wants us to play and seeing him bear fruit through us and impact the</p>

Eph 2:10 – God's workmanship... created for Good works... which God prepared beforehand)		<b>performance</b> (not a helpful suggestion but a threat to our worth)	other's lives) <b>Appreciate &amp; support others in their ministries</b>
<b>Inheritance</b> (Eph 1:11,14 we have been pledged an inheritance)	<b>Security in the next life</b>	<b>Vulnerability to temporal security</b> (rich fool stockpiling grain in his silos) <b>Fear of death</b> (as a kid – Dad had no answer)	<b>Willingness to suffer</b> (momentary light affliction...) <b>Long term investment in ministry</b> And like with adoption... <b>Material generosity</b>
<b>Delivered from Satan's authority</b> (Eph. 1:20,21;2:6; Col. 2:10,15)	<b>Freedom from demonic control</b> (greater is he who is in you)	<b>Vulnerable to temptation, accusation, kosmos, fear, oppression</b> (when you step out to serve you will receive POWERFUL opposition) <b>Fear and superstition</b> (Russia – still gripped by this)	<b>Refusal to cave in to accusation</b> (succumb to accusation) <b>Prayer warfare</b> (exercise that authority in dependence on and in the name of Christ)