

OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST, PART 2

PASTOR JAMIE BURNS

MESSAGE FROM SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

KEY TAKEAWAYS

10 Truths For Living From Identity:

1. You are redeemed (Ephesians 1:7)
2. You are forgiven (Colossians 1:13-14)
3. You are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
4. You are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
5. You are an ambassador of Christ AND the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:20-21)
6. You are a citizen of heaven (Philippians 3:20)
7. You are a co-heir with Christ (Galatians 4:6-7)
8. You are more than a conqueror (Romans 8:37)
9. You are the light of the world (Matthew 5:14-16)
10. You are called to abide in Him (John 15:4-5)

Central Theme:

Our identity is not found in what we do or have done, but in who Christ is and what He has done for us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Which of the 10 truths resonated most with you? Why?
2. The sermon mentioned that Pastor Andrew stated last week, "it doesn't matter what kind of dumpster fire decision you've made." How does this statement challenge or comfort you?
3. What's the difference between being "a sinner saved by grace" and being "a new creation in Christ"? Why does this distinction matter?
4. **On Being Redeemed:** Pastor Jamie described redemption as "total cancellation of our sins" with "cascading riches of His grace." What areas of your life still feel like they're under condemnation rather than complete forgiveness?
5. **On Being the Temple:** Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 together. What are the implications of being "a mobile sanctuary" who carries God's presence wherever you go? How should this change your daily life?
6. **On Being Ambassadors:** The sermon said we are "Christ's official representatives" and "ministers of reconciliation." How does this identity affect how you view:
 - Your workplace?
 - Your neighborhood?
 - Your family relationships?
 - Social media interactions?



7. **On Fear:** Pastor Jamie stated, "If there is fear in any area of your life, you simply need a greater revelation of God's love for you." What fears are you currently facing? What scripture could you stand on to combat that fear?
8. The message emphasized that God's promises are "for right now," not just for eternity. Which promise do you need to claim for your current situation?
9. **On Abiding:** John 15:4-5 says we're "powerless" when separated from Christ. What practices help you stay connected to Him? What tends to disconnect you?
10. Pastor Jamie asked, "Which one are you going to identify with?" - the old or the new, Adam's sin or Christ's victory. What old identity patterns do you need to break agreement with?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

This Week's Challenge:

Choose ONE of the following to practice this week:

1: Identity Declaration

- Write out 3-5 of the identity truths that speak most to you
- Speak them aloud each morning as a declaration
- Journal about how this practice affects your day

2: Fear Fighter

- Identify one area of fear in your life
- Find a scripture that addresses it
- Memorize that verse and speak it whenever fear arises
- Share your progress with an accountability partner

3: Ambassador Assignment

- Ask God to show you one person who needs reconciliation with Him
- Pray for them daily
- Look for an opportunity to share the good news with them
- Remember: you're not judging, you're reconciling

4: Abiding Practice

- Set three "abiding alarms" on your phone throughout the day
- When they go off, pause for 2-3 minutes to reconnect with God
- Simply acknowledge His presence, thank Him, or read a verse
- Track how this affects your sense of connection with Him

CLOSING PRAYER

Pray together for:

1. **Revelation** - That each person would have a deeper understanding of their identity in Christ
2. **Freedom** - For anyone struggling to believe they're truly forgiven and made new
3. **Boldness** - To live as ambassadors and lights in a dark world
4. **Abiding** - For consistent connection with Jesus throughout daily life

Ministry Time:

- Ask if anyone needs specific prayer related to identity struggles
- Pray for those battling fear or condemnation
- Speak blessing over one another, declaring the truths from this sermon

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Suggested Reading:

- "An Alternate Reality" by Chad Gonzalez (mentioned in sermon)
- "Destined to Reign" by Joseph Prince

For Further Study:

- Look up every "in Christ" or "in Him" reference in Ephesians
- Study the differences between Old Covenant and New Covenant identity
- Research the Greek word "huper-nikao" (more than conquerors)

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

1. Participate in the church-wide prayer and fasting initiative
2. Pick up a prayer guide or access it at cornerstonejc.com
3. Share what God is speaking to you with the church via email or text
4. Remember: Fasting means sacrificing something that costs you something, not just calories you don't need :)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scan QR code for Upcoming Events, News, Giving and more!
<https://linktr.ee/cornerstonejc>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Communion - January 18
- Water Baptism - February 8
- Ladies Winter Event - February 21

