

IF YOU'RE NOT THE MAIN CHARACTER, YOUR STORY STILL MATTERS. BUT IF YOU ARE THE MAIN CHARACTER, YOU'RE NOT THE MAIN CHARACTER, YOUR STORY STILL MATTERS. BUT YOUR STORY STILL MATTERS.

Weekend Resources

September 21, 2025

Main Character Energy - Identity

Use these questions and resources during your study time or with your group.

RECAP: You don't have to be the main character to live a meaningful story. In fact, the moment you stop performing and let Jesus take center stage... is the moment your story truly begins.

MAIN POINTS

- Embrace the Growing Pains
- Make a Withdrawal
- Learn to Fly

GETTING STARTED

- If you could instantly have one new skill or super-power, what would it be and why?

SCRIPTURE

- [2 Corinthians 5:14-18; Ephesians 2:6; James 1:2-4; John 12:24; 2 Peter 1:3; Romans 8:17; Exodus 10:26; John 3:3-6](#)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How does the idea that "you are already a new creation" challenge the way our culture tells us to define ourselves by success, relationships, or performance?
- Paul talks about an "economic" (earthly) reality and an "ontological" (heavenly) reality. How do you experience that tension in everyday life—seeing one thing in the mirror while Scripture declares something different?
- Kara Powell says identity is shaped by "the story you tell yourself, the mirror you look into, and the community you belong to." Which of those influences has the loudest voice for you right now, and how does it affect the way you see yourself?

APPLICATION

- What current struggle or "growing pain" might God be using to shape you, and how can you lean into it instead of running from it?
- Where do you most need to draw on God's strength, peace, or wisdom this week, and what specific practice (prayer, Scripture, worship, etc.) will help you access it?

What concrete faith step—big or small—do you sense God inviting you to take so you can live more fully as the new creation He says you are?

RESOURCES

- **"For mere improvement is not redemption - though redemption always improves people even here and now and will, in the end, improve them to a degree we cannot yet imagine. God became man to turn creatures into sons - not simply to produce better humans of the old kind, but to produce a new kind of human. It is not like teaching a horse to jump better and better, but like turning a horse into a winged creature. Of course, once it has got its wings, it will soar over fences which could never have been jumped and thus beat the natural horse at its own game. But there may be a period, while the wings are just beginning to grow, when it cannot do so - and at that stage the lumps on the shoulders - no one could tell by looking at them that they are going to be wings - may even give it an awkward appearance."** - C.S. Lewis
- **"Identity is formed by 3 POWERFUL FORCES: THE STORY YOU TELL YOURSELF. THE MIRROR YOU LOOK INTO. And THE COMMUNITY YOU BELONG TO..."** - Kara Powell
- **"You become what the most important person in your life thinks you are."** - Phillip Yancey
- **"We are half-hearted creatures... fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us... like a child making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."** - C.S. Lewis
- **"There is no change without growth, and no growth without pain."**
- **"When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away your ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer."** - Corrie Ten Boom