

INSIDE THE CIRCLE

SERMON-BASED QUESTIONS

APRIL 30 + MAY 1, 2022

MY STORY

1. When you were growing up, or in high school or college, did you have a “label”? If so, where did it come from?
2. Who do you value most in your life and why? (Aside from your spouse.)
3. How do you think God views you? Do you share the same view? Explain.

IN REVIEW

Last week, you were encouraged to replace Satan’s lies with the truth of God. What lies did God reveal to you and what verses did you use to fight those lies? Share your experience.

DIGGING DEEPER

4. Read Matthew 9:9-13. Then answer the following questions.
 - a. In these verses, how did other people view Matthew? What specific labels did they give him?
 - b. Before knowing Jesus, what labels defined you?
 - c. After Jesus told Matthew to “follow Him” he had dinner at Matthew’s house. After this, we know that Matthew became a disciple of Jesus—one of the 12 Apostles and an author of one of the Gospels. Matthew goes from a tax collector to a disciple of Jesus. In your encounters with Jesus over time, how have your labels, or identity, shifted over time?

5. Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 and answer the following questions.
- a. Reread verse 17. How does this verse alone impact and affect your identity in Jesus? How does it alter your “label”?

 - b. Why do we often struggle or fight against walking in this “new creation” God has given us through Jesus?

 - c. In this passage, Paul tells us we have been given the label *ambassador*. How does this label influence or redirect us as followers of Jesus?

 - d. Read the verse below, then answer these two questions for each verse:
 - i. State what each verse teaches or reveals about our identity in Christ.
 - ii. How should this new identity strengthen your “label” in Jesus?

<i>Galatians 4:6-7</i>	<i>John 15:15</i>	<i>Luke 15:14</i>	<i>Psalms 139:14</i>	<i>Romans 5:8</i>
i.	i.	i.	i.	i.
ii.	ii.	ii.	ii.	ii.

CALL TO ACTION | RE—LABEL: We have all been given labels—good, bad, and neutral. Reflect on how those labels have had an impact on you. From there search the Bible and find other scriptures that redefine or confirm how God sees you! From the verses you find, how does that make tomorrow different than today?

TAKING IT HOME

This is boots to the ground. How will you practically (and actually) put the “Call To Action” section(s) from above into practice this week?