

Small Group Study Guide

"CHECK YOUR ID!"

Sonship, Identity, and the Faith of Christ in You

Lesson Summary and Objective

This lesson focuses on the believer's true identity in Christ. Through the finished work of Jesus, believers are not merely forgiven—they are adopted as sons and daughters of God. The Christian life is not about striving to imitate Christ through human effort, but about allowing Christ to live His life through us by faith. The objective of this lesson is to help participants understand the cost of sonship, become conscious of their identity in Christ, commit to living from that identity, and remain consistent in abiding in Christ so His life is expressed through them.

Key Scriptures

Galatians 2:20

Ephesians 2:8–9

Hebrews 12:2

John 15:5

2 Corinthians 5:7

Romans 8:15–17

Galatians 4:4–7

2 Corinthians 5:21

Discussion and Study

Point 1 – The Cost of Sonship

Scripture References: 1 Peter 1:18–19; Galatians 4:4–5; John 1:12; Philippians 2:8

Our identity as sons and daughters of God was purchased through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The blood of Christ paid the price to redeem us from sin and bring us into God's family. Sonship is not earned through religious performance—it is received through the

finished work of Christ.

Discussion Questions

1. Biblical Understanding: According to 1 Peter 1:18–19, what was the price of our redemption?
2. Application: How does understanding the cost of your sonship change the way you view your relationship with God?
3. Reflection: Why is it important to remember that sonship was given to us rather than earned by us?

Point 2 – The Consciousness of Sonship

Scripture References: Romans 8:17; Galatians 4:7; Hosea 4:6; Romans 8:15

Many believers are sons by covenant but lack the awareness of their identity. When believers do not understand who they are in Christ, they often live with an orphan mindset—feeling unworthy, striving for approval, and trying to earn God’s love. The Holy Spirit reveals our adoption and teaches us to relate to God as our Father.

Discussion Questions

1. Biblical Understanding: According to Romans 8:17, what inheritance belongs to those who are children of God?
2. Application: What are some ways people may think or live like spiritual orphans even though they are children of God?
3. Reflection: How can growing in the knowledge of your identity in Christ change your daily life and faith?

Point 3 – The Commitment to the Covenant

Scripture References: 2 Corinthians 5:21; Isaiah 53:5; John 19:30; Luke 10:19; Ephesians 1:3

Through the great exchange of the cross, Jesus became what we were so that we could become what He is in righteousness before God. Because of this covenant, believers have access to spiritual authority, blessing, and victory in Christ. Our identity is not determined by our past, feelings, or performance but by Christ’s finished work.

Discussion Questions

1. Biblical Understanding: What does 2 Corinthians 5:21 teach about the exchange that took place through Christ?
2. Application: How does understanding Christ’s finished work help you overcome feelings of guilt or failure?

3. Reflection: In what ways can believers live confidently in the authority and blessings given through Christ?

Point 4 – The Consistency of Abiding in Christ

Scripture References: Galatians 2:20; Hebrews 12:2; John 15:5; Philippians 4:13

The true Christian life is expressed through the reality that Christ lives in the believer. Victory is not achieved through personal striving but through abiding in Christ. As believers remain connected to Him, His faith, strength, and life are expressed through them.

Discussion Questions

1. Biblical Understanding: According to John 15:5, what happens when we try to live the Christian life apart from Christ?
2. Application: What practical habits help believers remain connected to Christ daily?
3. Reflection: What does the phrase “Not I, but Christ” mean for the way we live our lives?

Closing

Closing Reflection

At every spiritual “checkpoint,” believers must remember their true identity. The cross did not only forgive sin—it adopted us into God’s family and placed Christ within us. As sons and daughters of God, we live by His life, walk by faith, and confidently embrace the identity we have received through Christ.

Group Declaration

“Christ lives in me. Christ strengthens me. Christ overcomes through me. I carry the real identity—Christ in me.”