



# PULPIT CURRICULUM

## Authentic Identity

Pastor Derek A. Ward

January 5 – January 11, 2020

### 1. GOING DEEPER

#### James 1:1

1.1) a) Discuss what James means in James 1:1 when he describes himself as a servant of God. b) With reference to Galatians 1:10 explain why as believers, we cannot effectively be a servant of God if we are still at the place where we need the approval of others.

1.2) a) What occurs, according to 2 Corinthians 5:17, when a person becomes a disciple of Jesus Christ? b) What is the relationship between our identity as a follower of Christ and <sup>(i)</sup> our thought processes (reference Romans 12:2); <sup>(ii)</sup> the way we communicate with others (reference Ephesians 4:29)?

1.3) a) It has often been said that our lives may be the only Bible that some will ever read. What are some practical ways we can ensure that we accurately portray to others what the Word of God says and so draw them to Christ? b) What will be the end result if we manage to convince others we are truly serving God when we really are not (reference Matthew 7: 21-23)?

### 2. ASSESS YOUR LIFE

2.1) To what extent do you demonstrate that you identify as a follower of Jesus Christ in your thoughts, words and actions?



My life does not reflect at all that I am a follower of Jesus Christ.



I am not very consistent in reflecting the nature of Christ in my life.



I am growing in my consistency as a child of God



I am striving more and more daily to demonstrate the nature of Christ in my life.



My life fully reflects that I am a follower of Christ.

2.2) What actions will you identify to more fully embrace your identity in Christ?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

#### Verse of The Week

James 1:22 (ESV)

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

### 3. APPLICATION

Of the list above, which one(s) will you be intentional about practicing this week? (Who will hold you accountable)?

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Sermon Main Points	Sermon Highlights
<p>To have authentic identity as believers, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⌘ Let your identity <i>influence</i> our mindset;</li> <li>⌘ Let your identity <i>influence</i> our speech; and</li> <li>⌘ Let your identity <i>instruct</i> our actions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⌘ <i>To be authentic is to be genuine, unfeigned or undisguised.</i></li> <li>⌘ <i>Changed lives are the authentic demonstration of genuine faith in Christ.</i></li> <li>⌘ <i>Faith must produce authentic deeds.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>“Our thoughts control our behavior so we must ensure that we align our thoughts with the Word of God so that we can live the kind of lives that God requires”.</i></p>

<b>5 Day Study Plan</b>	<b>“Study to show yourself approved unto God...”</b>
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<p><b>Day 1</b>     <b>Proverbs 18:1</b>            What I learned (observation / interpretation):             How I will Respond (application):</p>	<p> <b>Observation</b> (<i>What does the text say?</i>)</p> <p>When observing the text, look for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Who...</b> <i>wrote the book ... who is it about ... who did/said this?</i></li> <li><b>What...</b> <i>is happening?</i></li> <li><b>Where...</b> <i>did this take place?</i></li> <li><b>When...</b> <i>did it happen?</i></li> <li><b>Keywords</b> (significant, repeated, emphasized),</li> <li><b>Transition words</b> (because, therefore, so then, but),</li> <li><b>Commands</b> (clear action statements).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Day 2</b>     <b>Colossians 3:1-2</b>            What I learned:             How I will Respond:</p>	
<p><b>Day 3</b>     <b>Romans 12:3</b>            What I learned:             How I will Respond:</p>	<p> <b>Interpretation</b> (<i>What does the text mean?</i>)</p> <p>When interpreting the text, examine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>What is the main theme...</b> <i>what is the meaning of key words)?</i></li> <li><b>Read</b> cross references</li> <li><b>Compare</b> translations</li> <li><b>Summarize</b> the big idea</li> <li><b>Use</b> commentaries (last thing)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Day 4</b>     <b>2 Timothy 3:16</b>            What I learned:             How I will Respond:</p>	
<p><b>Day 5</b>     <b>1 John 3:18</b>            What I learned:             How I will Respond:</p>	<p> <b>Application</b> (<i>How should this affect Me?</i>)</p> <p>When applying the text, ask <i>“How should this change the way I think, speak, act? Seek to identify</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Sins</b> to confess?</li> <li><b>Promises</b> to claim?</li> <li><b>Examples</b> to follow?</li> <li><b>Actions</b> to obey?</li> <li><b>Knowledge</b> to grow in?</li> </ul>