

Life Group Homework

For the week of September 24, 2017

MY STORY

- 1) What was your takeaway from last week's study?
- 2) How does wrestling with the "awe of God" impact our identity?

QUICK REVIEW

This section is a review of Sunday's message.

- 3) Upon reviewing your notes from Sunday's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention?

DIGGING DEEPER

Exodus 3:14-15 (NLT)

¹⁴God replied to Moses, "I Am Who I Am. Say this to the people of Israel: I Am has sent me to you." ¹⁵God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: Yahweh, the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.

- 4) This week Pastor explained that the Israelites had history with God. From the passage above, who does God identify Himself as the God of?
- 5) These three men have significance because each of them represent a different facet of our relationship with God. Abraham was a friend of God, Isaac was the promise fulfilled and Jacob represents God's mercy. Of the three, which has the most significance to you personally and why?
- 6) How does the understanding of these men impact our identity?

Next, we will unpack the idea of belonging to God.

John 1:12 (ESV)

¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

In the verse above the apostle John is referring to Jesus.

- 7) According to the verse, what qualifies people to become children of God?

John 8:31-37 (ESV)

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They

answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

- 8) What qualification did the Pharisees have that made them think they were not slaves?
- 9) What similar qualifications do we find ourselves relying on to think we are not slaves?
- 10) From the passage, how does one become free?
- 11) What do the words, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples" mean to you and your life?
- 12) What does it mean to "practice" sin?

TAKING IT HOME

Romans 7:15-25 (NLT)

¹⁵I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. ¹⁶But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it. ¹⁸And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. ¹⁹I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. ²⁰But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. ²²I love God's law with all my heart. ²³But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. ²⁴Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? ²⁵Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.

- 13) From the passage above, what does Paul struggle with? In what ways can you relate to his struggle?
- 14) Slavery or taskmasters come in many shapes and forms. What taskmasters have you found freedom from?
- 15) What taskmasters have you seen others struggle with?
- 16) Paul is an apostle and a mature believer. What does his struggle reveal to us about ours?
- 17) Who does Paul point to for the solution of the problem?
- 18) What comfort does Paul's struggle give you?

Romans 8:1-6 (ESV)

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you, free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has

done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

- 19) When looking back at the story of Israel and the mountain of God we see the law being given to them. What do the above verses say God did through Christ?
- 20) According to Romans 8, where do we need to set our minds, and how do we do that?

CHAIR TIME TOOL

Read Romans Chapters 7-8 and meditate on the following questions.

- 21) Is there anything in your life that you are a slave to?
- 22) What is our hope from these chapters?
- 23) How do these chapters bring a fresh awareness of the awe of God?



WEEK TWO | PASTOR CRAIG SWEENEY

Text: They don't know much...but they know they are free!
Exodus 19 & 20

Theme: It's time to **wrestle** with God **for** my identity.

The SIMPLE PROBLEM:

Begin with the end in mind – It's "not too difficult for you, and it is not beyond your reach." (*Deuteronomy 30:11*)

Underestimating the slave driver and The Spirit of God (*Romans 7:14-8:39*)

My Identity (*Romans 7:15*)

You belong to/with God. (*Romans 8:1*)

You belong to/with His family. (*Romans 8:15-16*)

You are free! (*Romans 8:2-4*)

You have a purpose.

Live free. *Follow me...*(*Matthew 4:19*)

Point to Jesus' story. (*Acts 1:8*)

ONLINE RESOURCES

YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

- You are a child of God
- You are a temple of the Holy Spirit
- You are a priest and an ambassador of God
- You are part of the body of Christ

LINK: www.dougbrintonbooks.com/your-identity-in-christ

CHANGING YOUR SELF-IMAGE

- Who do you think you are?
- **Believe the truth, not others' lies**
- Reject **false "solutions"**
- You are in a growth process

LINK: www.dougbrintonbooks.com/changing-your-self-image