

7 SAMPLE IDENTITY STATEMENTS WITH SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS TO USE WITH THEIR CHILDREN

In Christ, you are:

ACCEPTED

... whoever comes to me I will never cast out. -John 6:37

- What are things you do to try to earn the acceptance of other people, especially people you want to be friends with?
- How would you feel if a person close to you said that they will never reject you?
- How do worldly ideas of acceptance poison your relationship with God?

LIKED

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. - Zephaniah 3:17

Human love is often dependent on how the other person acts toward us. We often find it hard to love the unkind people in our life.

- Have you considered that because of what Jesus did, God rejoices over you even when you act unlovable?
- How does knowing God loves us unconditionally help us to seek him?

ADOPTED

God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. - Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

- Describe what you think it might be like to be an orphan.
- In what ways should being a child of God change the way you live?

NOT GUILTY

as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
-Psalm 103:12

Because of Jesus Christ, we are justified by faith. This means that God declares us not guilty. As we struggle with sin in our lives, we can be weighed down by guilt. On one hand, guilt helps us see we did something wrong that we need to confess and ask forgiveness for. This is good. But being ruled by guilt especially after we confess sin and receive forgiveness is one of Satan's most effective tools against us.

- How does guilt affect how you live?
- It's weird, but guilt can keep us from coming to God with our sin. Why don't we want to bring our sin to God?

- Verses like this one and 1 John 1:9 remind us who we really are in Christ. How do these passages help us as deal with the sins we commit?

FREE

For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

– Romans 8:14

Temptation makes us feel like we are in bondage to sin. But this verse promises that sin does not hold us in its power.

- What is freedom? What does it mean?
- How does this truth impact us when we are facing temptation?

VICTORIOUS

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. -Romans 8:37

- When Paul wrote this, he could have just said that we are “conquerors”. Instead, he says we are “more than conquerors”. Why do you think he said it that way?
- Why do you think you struggle to believe you can win against sin?
- How do you normally think of yourself? Do you spend more time thinking about yourself as a loser to sin or a victor in Christ? What are some things you can do to start believing (and living) what God says is true?

NEW CREATION

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. – 2 Corinthians 5:17

- You are, now, a new creation in Christ. What does this mean to you?
- What are the bad things that have passed away?
- In what ways are we “new” because of what God has done?
- We are new but we still want to do bad things. How do you think our being new helps us to win against the bad things we are tempted to do?

All scripture is quoted from the English Standard Version (ESV) except where it is quoted from the New Living Translation (NLT)

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