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# YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST FROM A-Z



# Your Identity: A to Z

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*What follows is a sampling of Bible verses that describe our identity in Christ. Becoming attune to these truths during our study of God's word and marinating in them will bring us increasing joy. This joy motivates us to live holy lives as we walk by faith and repentance through the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the way the Holy Spirit helps us bring our lives into conformity with who we already are in Christ. All verses are quoted from the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise noted.*

## AADOPTED

*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 New Living Translation)*

- How are you living like an orphan?
- In what ways might knowing you are adopted—by God—change the way you live?

## BLESSED WITH EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing. —Ephesians 1:3*

- Why do you think Paul says that we are blessed with every spiritual blessing?
- In what ways does being blessed with every spiritual blessing help us follow Christ?

## CONDEMNATION (NO)

*There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. —Romans 8:1*

- How do feelings of condemnation affect you?
- What three words would you choose to describe how it feels to no longer be condemned?

## DEAD TO SIN

*How can we who died to sin still live in it? —Romans 6:2*

- Since we all experience temptation and we do sin, what do you think it means to be “dead to sin”?
- As we grow in faith, we realize that sins’ power to make us sin and its power to entice us really is dead. How do these truths change the way we face temptation? What can we do differently?

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## ESTABLISHED

*And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. – 2 Corinthians 1:21-22*

- This verse uses “anointed”, “seal[ed]”, and “guarantee[d]” to modify our identity as “established.” How do these words encourage you?
- In what ways does being established in Christ important when we face challenges?

## FREE

*For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. –Romans 8:2*

- List three ways you would be different if you really experienced this freedom?
- How do you try to free yourself instead of receiving the freedom you have already been given?

## GODLY

*The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials. – 2 Peter 2:9*

- How does this verse help you think differently about the trials you face?
- Because we are considered godly, what benefits do we receive when we fail in those trials?

## HIDDEN IN CHRIST

*For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. – Colossians 3:3*

- What have you died to?
- When facing struggles, what blessings can you expect because you are hidden in Christ?

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## INDWELT

*By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you. – 2 Timothy 1:14*

- The very Spirit of the living God who was at Creation, walked with Abraham, David, the disciples and Paul is right now inside of you. Let that sink in... really consider that.
- How what ways does the Holy Spirit help us guard the truth God has given us?

## JUSTIFIED

*Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. – Romans 5:1*

- In what ways might you try to justify yourself instead of resting in God's justifying grace by faith?
- How does being justified of every sin; past, present, and future help you deal with your ongoing battle with sin, especially when you fail?

## KNOWN

*Oh Lord, you have searched me and known me. – Psalm 139:1*

- What benefits do we experience because God knows us?
- How does this truth give you confidence as you go through the challenges of life, especially when you are misunderstood or wronged?

## LOVED

*For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Romans 8:38-39*

- According to this verse, what does God want you to know about his love for you?
- How does knowing this degree of love help you live for him each day?

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## MEMBER OF CHRIST'S BODY

*Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. – 1 Corinthians 12:27*

- What are three ways your church blesses you, either on Sunday or throughout the week?
- What happens to body parts that stop being connected to the body?

## NEW CREATION

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

- You may not feel like it, but to God, you are, right now a new creation. Is this the first time you have considered that?
- How does this truth free you even while you struggle to make it more of a reality in how you think, speak and live?

## OVERCOMER

*Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?  
– 1 John 5:5*

- What is a struggle in your life right now that has you down that you just can't seem to overcome?
- Do you see your battle as one you have to overcome or as one Jesus has already overcome?  
What are the differences between these two perspectives?

## PRIEST

*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.  
- 1 Peter 2:9*

- How does being a royal priest change your view of your responsibilities as a spouse and parents?
- What is keeping you from enjoying the priesthood God has given you?

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### QUALIFIED

*Giving thanks to the father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.  
– Colossians 1:12*

- What are the differences between the qualification spoken of here and your being qualified for a car loan or a mortgage?
- How does this verse help you when you feel incapable of serving alongside other Christians who seem to have more together than you do?

### RIGHTEOUS

*For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. – 2 Corinthians 5:21*

- How righteous do you feel most of the time?
- How does being declared righteous by God through faith in Jesus Christ help you love people who don't approve of you?

### SOJOURNER

*Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh which wage war against your soul. – 1 Peter 2:11*

- A sojourner is someone who just passes through. As Christians, we are just passing through this world. As you evaluate your attitude toward wealth and success, in what ways is your attitude more of a sojourner or a squatter (someone whose life is tied to this world)?
- How does a sojourner's mindset help you with the temptation to find affirmation by comparing what you have with others?

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### TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.*

– 1 Corinthians 6:19

- Why do you think God wants you to think of yourself as a “temple” where he lives?
- List three benefits of the Holy Spirit’s dwelling inside you, especially when facing a situation that is beyond your control?

### UNTOUCHABLE

*We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. –1 John 5:18*

- Satan can do many things, but he can never take you away from Christ. How does that help you when you are doubting God’s wisdom or even your own salvation?
- What qualities can be true of the way you live because the Lord protects you?

### VICTORIOUS

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

- Think of the sin(s) that you struggle with the most. How does this verse give you hope?
- How would you minister this verse to someone you know who is struggling?

### WITNESS

*You will be my witnesses. – Acts 1:8*

- Why do you think God calls us “witnesses” as opposed to policeman or judges?
- In what ways do we witness? Is it only telling someone that they are sinners who need to know Jesus? How can sharing our own struggles with unbelievers actually be an effective witness?

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## **X** – Great is the mystery of godliness.

Since there are no identity “X’s” in the Bible (at least that I am aware of), I will take editorial license and come up with something special. The letter, “X”, has many uses. One such use pertains to mystery as in “X marks the spot” or “solve for x”.

*Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness. – 1 Timothy 3:16*

- Our identity in Christ certainly has a mysterious quality to it. For example, our identity in Christ is true of us right now, yet we are still bringing our thoughts, words, and deeds into line with this new identity. This is a work that will not be completed until the day we see Jesus in heaven. What are three ways this mystery makes our Christian faith more exciting?

## **Y**OKED

*Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. – Matthew 11:29-30*

- Being a Christian is hard and requires sacrifice. What does Jesus say your yoke is easy?
- What are the things you do make your yoke harder?

## **Z**EALOUS

*I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day. – Acts 22:3*

- What are three things (anything) you are zealous about?
- Of the three things you just wrote down, where does zeal for God rank? How have the identity statements on this A to Z list help move zeal for God to the top of the list?