

Extreme Makeover: Heart Edition

Week 1

Foundation: Your Identity in Christ

Where have I attempted to find identity?

- As I child _____
- As an teenager _____
- As a young woman _____
- Now _____

As a Christian, where is my identity?

2 Corinthians 5:17 _____

Who brought this about?

5:18 _____

How did He do this?

5:21 _____

What does the Bible say about **why** God brought about our salvation?
(what theme do you see running through all these verses)

John 3:16 _____

Romans 5:8 _____

Ephesians 2:4 _____

Ephesians 5:2 _____

1 John 4:9-10 _____

Look at Ephesians 1:3-14.

List as many references as you can that show God actively bringing about our salvation:
(examples:)

1. v. 3 -God the father has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing
2. v. 4 – He chose us before the foundation of the world;
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

How can this help and encourage you when you are tempted to doubt God's love?

How can this encourage you to fight against sin in your own life?

According to 2 Corinthians 5:14,15 what was it that controlled or motivated Paul's ministry?

Now read Ephesians 2:1-10 and answer the following questions:

1. According to verse 1, what was your condition before salvation? _____

 2. Whose children were we and what were we doing? (v. 2,3) _____

 3. According to verse 4, who saved us and why? _____

 4. When did He save us (v. 5)? _____
 5. What is our relationship to Christ now in verses 5 - 7
 - Made us _____
 - Raised us _____
 - Seated us _____
 6. verse 8-9 say, *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.* Whose work is salvation?

 7. So, according to verse 10, where do our good works show up and why? _____

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1. For further meditation: Read and take note of everything that has *already been done in Christ*, and then go back and take note of what your response should be to what He has done.

The fact that you have been (and are still) so greatly loved should free you from the treadmill of performing in the hope that you can earn God's love. We can never earn it and we will never deserve it, but it is given to us – redemption, forgiveness by his grace are lavished on us according to Ephesians 1:7,8. If you are not sure that you have received God's gift of salvation, please talk to me or to Jeanie or to one of the women leading our discussion groups and we would love to talk with you.

Resources:

Because He Loves Me, by Elyse Fitzpatrick

The Cross Centered Life by C. J. Mahaney

Also recommended (not easy reading, but worth the effort ☺)

Desiring God by John Piper

Links:

<http://www.sovereigngracestore.com/ProductInfo.aspx?productid=M4270-00-21>