

The Seven: Truths That Help Us Journey With Jesus

Week 2 - Identity

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Hebrews 2

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Small Group Discussion Questions

Read and discuss Hebrews 2:1-18 (NASB)

For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. ² For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty, ³ how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, ⁴ God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.⁵ For He did not subject to angels the world to come, concerning which we are speaking. ⁶ But one has testified somewhere, saying,

“What is man, that You remember him?

Or the son of man, that You are concerned about him?

⁷ “You have made him for a little while lower than the angels;

You have crowned him with glory and honor,

And have appointed him over the works of Your hands;

⁸ You have put all things in subjection under his feet.”

For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him.⁹ But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰ For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings. ¹¹ For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, ¹² saying,

“I will proclaim Your name to My brethren,

In the midst of the congregation I will sing Your praise.”

¹³ And again,

“I will put My trust in Him.”

And again,

“Behold, I and the children whom God has given Me.”

¹⁴ Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. ¹⁶ For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.

*What is this passage saying to you?

*What does it tell us about our Identity?

Jesus became one of us and died to understand our temptations, to free us from our sin and to help us with our sin. Hebrews leaves no doubt – the posture of Jesus when we sin... is always arm around us “I understand this brother. I get why you do this sister. When you’re ready, let’s work on this together.” This is the most astounding solution to the US vs. THEM dichotomy that has ever been invented. No human could have come up with something like that.

*Do you find it difficult to accept this picture of God’s love?

The author of Hebrews says he declares us brothers and sisters of Jesus so that we’d no longer be afraid of things like death... so we’d have security instead of fear. So we wouldn’t ever worry again about losing his love. And so that he can help us in our struggles

*How does seeing ourselves as brothers and sisters of Jesus give security over fear?

Your identity as the beloved child of God is not a concept to apply – it is a reality to accept. You are secure in his love – nothing left to earn – nothing to fear – nothing you could lose – And you have his help. There is no more sure anchor for your identity than that.

*What are other realities or truths in your life you have to work to accept vs apply?

That means that we need to constantly wrestle our identity away from other tribes and anchor it first and foremost into the truest identity we have.

*Are there other identities competing for supremacy in your life?