

DEVOTIONAL JOURNAL IDENTITY IN CHRIST

The teen and young adult years can be very confusing. We live in a world that is always trying to create our identities and pull us away from our Creator. Amidst the noise and chaos of societal pressures and cultural expectations, it's easy to lose sight of who we truly are and whose we are.

This 7-day mini-devotional serves as a reminder of who God says you are and that your identity is found in Him alone. Go through each day and ask God to help you perceive the love He has for you and what it really means to have your identity in Him.



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Day 1: Knowing Who You Are in Christ

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Understanding that you are God's masterpiece created in Christ Jesus is foundational to your identity. Let's take a closer look at this verse.

"For we are his workmanship": This phrase emphasizes that believers are God's creation. The word "workmanship" comes from the Greek word "poiéma," which means "a product". This highlights the idea that each believer is uniquely crafted by God with care and intentionality.

"Created in Christ Jesus": This phrase indicates that our identity as God's workmanship is found in our relationship with Christ. It emphasizes that our spiritual rebirth and transformation occur through our union with Christ. Our new identity and purpose stems from being "in Christ Jesus."

"For good works": This clause highlights the purpose for which we are created.

Believers are not only saved by grace but also called to a life of good works. These good works are the natural outflow of our faith in Christ and are intended to bring glory to God and benefit others.

"Which God prepared beforehand": This phrase emphasizes that God has already planned and prepared specific good works for each believer to walk in.

"That we should walk in them": This clause stresses the importance of actively living out the good works that God has prepared for us. It implies a lifestyle characterized by obedience to God's will and a willingness to engage in acts of service and love towards others. But it also implies that we have free will and can choose to be obedient or not.

Journal Prompt: Reflect on a time when you felt uncertain about your identity. How does knowing that you are God's masterpiece, handiwork, or workmanship created in Christ Jesus change your perspective on your worth and purpose?

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Day 2: Identity Secure in Christ

1 John 1a See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

The apostle John reminds us of the incredible love that God has poured out upon us. It is a love that transcends human understanding, a love that declares us as beloved children of the Most High. Our identity as children of God is not based on our performance or circumstances, but on the unchanging character of our Heavenly Father. In Christ, we find our security. We are chosen, accepted, and cherished by God Himself. Our worth is not determined by the fleeting opinions of others, but by the priceless sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Through His death and resurrection, we are made new, clothed in His righteousness, and invited into a relationship of intimacy and grace. As we anchor our identity in Christ, we can rest in the assurance of our salvation. We no longer need to strive for acceptance or approval from the world, for we are already fully accepted and deeply loved by our Heavenly Father.

Journal Prompt: Reflect on your understanding of identity. How have you defined yourself in the past? How does knowing that you are secure in Christ as a beloved child of God impact the way you view yourself? How does this truth shape your sense of worth and purpose?



Day 3: Chosen and Called

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

God has chosen you and called you His own. God, who created all things, is your Father because of the faith you have in Jesus Christ. Isn't that amazing. Think about what it means to be chosen by God – that you are His kid – and how this impacts your purpose and direction in life.

Journal Prompt: Consider a time when you faced doubt or uncertainty about your purpose in life. How does knowing that you are chosen and called by God impact your confidence and sense of direction? Reflect on how embracing your identity as chosen and called by God empowers you to pursue your passions and serve others with purpose and conviction.



Day 4: Freedom in Christ

Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Christ has set you free from the bondage of sin and shame. Jesus Christ took your place in death. He died for you so that you would be free. Reflect on the freedom you have in Christ and how it empowers you to live a life of purpose and joy.

Journal Prompt: Reflect on a time when you experienced freedom from something. How does knowing that Christ has set you free and liberated you empower you to live a life of purpose and joy?



Day 5: Living in Victory

1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through Christ, you have victory over sin and death. 1 John 1:9 says If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. When you sin you can go to Jesus Christ and ask for forgiveness. He is faithful and just to forgive you of your sins. You do not have bear the shame of sinning against God. And you don't have to condemn yourself. Isn't that awesome??

Journal Prompt: Write about a recent victory or moment of triumph in your

walk with Christ. How does knowing that you have victory through Christ no matter what happens impact your outlook on life and your future?			



Day 6: Walking in His Image

Colossians 3:10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

As you grow in your relationship with Christ, you are being renewed in His image. Reflect on how you can reflect Christ's character more fully in your thoughts, words, and actions.

Journal Prompt: Identify a specific character trait of Christ (e.g., love, kindness, patience) that you want to cultivate in your own life. Reflect on ways you can actively reflect that trait in your thoughts, words, and actions.



Day 7: The Love of God

Romans 8:38–39 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, either the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

In these verses, the Apostle Paul declares the overwhelming certainty that nothing in all of creation can separate believers from the unwavering and boundless love of God, which is found in Christ Jesus our Lord. God's love for you is unchanging. Take time today to meditate on the depth of His love and how it impacts your sense of worth and belonging.

Journal Prompt: Search the Bible for more information on the love of God.

How do you think Paul became convinced of this? How can you become more convinced of this?