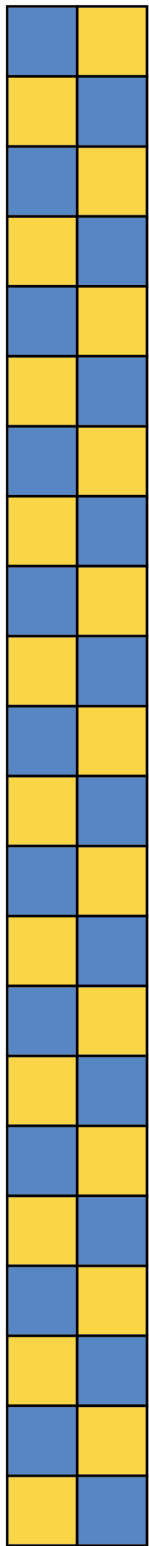


IT'S TIME FOR DIFFERENT



Conversation Guide Pastor Derwin L. Gray

Week 5 - It's Time to Love Yourself Correctly Part 3

SERMON RECAP:

Whether we know it or not, we are constantly being disciplined into a particular identity that is laid before us. Our families of origin, political ideologies, culture, and media all have competing ideas with regard to our identities.

How we answer the question *Who am I?* is foundational to the way we live before God and others. Therefore, we must be committed to the Spirit-enabled practice of loving ourselves correctly. While the dark powers at work in our world are striving to deform our identities, we must let King Jesus form our identities.

The apostle Paul, in his writing to local churches that experienced problems and divisions of varying degrees, reminded them continually of their true identities in Jesus. We are the bride of Christ. We are the body of Christ. We are the building (temple) of God. These beautiful images leap off the page and become true of us when we put our faith in Jesus, are clothed with His righteousness, and are adopted into the family of God.

In Christ, the *Who am I?* question is answered with an eternal identity that transcends anything that this life can offer us. To belong to Christ is enough.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Upward

- Read Romans 12:4-5. What does it say about the character of Christ, that He is willing to unify us with Himself?
- Read Ephesians 2:19-22. What does Paul mean by referring to Christ as the cornerstone of God's household?

Inward

- Reflect on the three B's which represent our true identity in Christ: Bride of Christ, Body of Christ, and Building of God. Which of these stick out to you in this moment? Why?

Outward

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-13. What does Paul's metaphor convey about our relationship to our siblings in Christ. How does this impact the way you see and treat others?
- Take time to discuss how you treat those outside of the body of Christ. How can you challenge one another this week to embody the gospel to those in your spheres of influence?

SOUL TATTOO:

Let Jesus form your identity.

ACTION STEP:

This week, marinate on Ephesians 2:19-22.