



## Sermon Notes: A New Identity

### 1. Who the disciples were.

- a. Jesus' disciples were nobodies from nowhere.
- b. Jesus' disciples were a diverse group.
- c. Jesus' disciples were not influential.

### 2. Who they became.

- a. They became a community - a new people.
- b. They became defined by their relationship to Jesus.

### 3. How they got this new identity.

- a. Jesus calls.
- b. Jesus chooses.
- c. Jesus commissions.
- d. Jesus characterizes.

### 4. What they were supposed to do with it.

- a. Follow Jesus.
- b. Tell about Jesus.

### **Gospel Applications:**

1. Don't worry about what identity you bring to Jesus.
2. Let go of any identity not rooted in who you are in Christ.
3. Let Christ determinatively tell you who you are.
4. Go and live in the reality of who Christ says you are.



## Application Questions: A New Identity

1. What's one thing you did this week to hold a conviction with greater compassion?
2. What are some examples of things you observe people seeking their identity in? What are some things people look to for their sense of significance/self-worth/uniqueness?
3. If you asked 100 people, "*Who are you?*" what kinds of responses do you think you'd get? What do people tend to think of as "the real *them*"?
4. What are you seeking your identity in? Finish this sentence: "*I feel like my life is a success and I have value when I \_\_\_\_\_.*"
5. What are some ways you could lose the things you answered for #4? (e.g. Your work/vocation: you could be fired or injured in such a way that you could no longer perform that work.)
6. What will happen to your answers from #4 when you die?
7. What do you *feel* and *think* when #5 (or the fear of #6) happens, and something attacks the source(s) of your identity?
8. In light of #2-7, why do you think Jesus said, "*If you save your life, you will lose it; but if you lose your life for my sake, you will save it*"? What does that phrase mean to you in this context?
9. What are some things Jesus says are true of your identity in him?
10. Apply questions #5-6 to what you answered for #9. What do you notice?
11. Pick something meaningful from your list in #9. What would it look like for you to live in the reality of that identity in your everyday life?