



Sermon Notes: Know Thyself

1. The essence of an identity.

- What you do.
- What you have.
- What you desire.

2. The seeking of an identity.

Diagnostic: What identity in your life currently provides the most powerful dose of self-worth?

3. The layers of an identity.

4. The creation and/or discovery of an identity.

5. The power of an identity.

Identity → Motivation → Action

6. The reshaping of an identity.

- a. Die to your self-made, culturally-assigned identity.
- b. Believe that God has given you a new identity by sheer grace.
 - The world tells you your identity must be achieved.
 - The Gospel tells you your identity must be received.
- c. Now live in the reality of who God says you are.



Gospel Applications: Know Thyself

1. Take 2-3 minutes and list every source from which you derive a sense of your identity (e.g. work, family, gender, race, religion).
2. What are you actively seeking your identity (sense of self-worth) in, either because these things are important to you or because these things are how our culture evaluates your worth?
3. Rank your layers from #1-2 from most to least important. What identity in your life currently provides the most powerful sense of self-worth?
4. What are some ways you've attempted to "find yourself"? What are some ways you've attempted to fashion the self you want to see? Which of these – discovering yourself or designing yourself – is your default?
5. How do some of your core identities (your top "layers" from #3) influence your priorities and choices on a daily basis?
6. What emotions do you feel, and what reactions do you have, when you feel like you're failing at your core identities? What about when you succeed?
7. What are you beginning to see in terms of the link between your identity and everything you do in life?
8. What would it look like for you to die to the self-made identity layers you've begun to recognize? How would you break the power of these things?
9. What are some things God says are true of your identity *in Christ*? What do you observe when you compare this list to #1-2?
10. What's one practical way for you to begin living out of your Gospel identity, rather than defaulting to living out of your self-made identity?
11. Summarize briefly what you're thinking about identity right now.