**Identity Crisis**

**Reading: Ephesians 1:1-13**

**Song: Victory In Jesus**

To live the Christian life you have to know who you are. This is not just a problem among teens.

READ THE FIRST 6 VERSES OF OUR TEXT.

1. Underscore “In Christ Jesus”. [vs 1, 3, 4 (in him)]

2. Underscore “In the beloved” [vs 6].

# You Can’t Behave Right Until You Know Just Who You Are

Simply trying to live right without knowing who you are is legalism in its strictest sense. ***Ephesians 2:8-9, For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the grace of God: Not of works lest any man should boast.***

**Fundamental Problem - We Are Self-Bound**

Most of us are bound and we don’t know how to get free. Jesus said... ***You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*** **[John 8:32]**

It is our individual responsibility to ***work out our own salvation in fear & trembling.*** **[Philippians 2:12]** A simple definition; **Truth is what God says**. **[Remember this for the test later]**

# “in christ”

We all have three basic wants.

1. Significance: 2. Sufficiency: 3. Security –

All of those things are found in the phrase “IN CHRIST”

# Just “who” and “what” are you in christ?

***“Saints” at Ephesus who are IN Christ Jesus***

Do you know who I am? I am the ***righteousness of God by faith in Jesus Christ***. **[Philippians 3:9]**

***Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who HAS blessed us with ALL spiritual blessings IN Christ.*** **[vs 3]**

**[2 Peter 1:3]** God ***has given unto us all things that pertain to life and godliness.***

**[Joshua 1:3]** God said...***Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given you.***

***God commends His love toward us, in that , while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*** ***[Romans 5:8]....What shall we say to these things? If God be for us who can be against us?*** **[Romans 8:31]**

If that’s not security what is?

**Tying It Together** God has accepted me when I obeyed the Gospel. ***He did that to the praise and glory of His grace…*** that’s grace

The key to our lesson is finding our identity IN Christ. ***For you are all the children of God by faith IN Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ.*** ***[Galatians 3:26-27]***