

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM



Date & Sermon Series:

June 27/28, 2015; Revealed

Speaker:

Campus Pastors

Scripture Focus: Ephesians 1 & 2

Note To Leaders:

This weekend we discussed “Identity Revealed.” There will be a question or two specific to each CP’s message, but feel free to use any question that resonates with your group whether you heard that particular message or not; they’re all based in Ephesians 1 and 2! These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion. Don’t feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don’t have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

Icebreaker Suggestions: One of the first things we typically reveal about our identity is what position title or job we hold. What job did you want have, or, more likely how you stated it then, *what did you want to be* when you were growing up?

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend’s message?
3. The book of Ephesians tells us there are things within us that God wants to REVEAL to us and open our eyes to. Not only that, but he wants to call these things out of us. What needs to be revealed to you during this sermon series?

Specific Questions:

1. Identity is how we’re defined and is typically influenced by whom we allow to speak into our lives and define us. Before coming to Christ, in what did you find your identity? How has finding your true identity released you to live a fuller life? Do you still struggle with returning to your old identity?
2. BC/BRPM: In his message, Pastor Mike stated that God will ask us to give up things he might not ask others to give up because he wants us to take away anything that might take away from our relationship with Him. What is your response to this?

Have you experienced this before? If so, did taking something away, add to your relationship with God? How or how not?

3. BRAM: Pastor Joel stated, “the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in service of God.” Can you relate to this statement? If so, how have you “lost” yourself? If not, what are ways you could go about doing so?
4. GT: Pastor Jeremy read Ephesians 2: 8-10, and explained that God looks at us and says, “Wow! That’s MY masterpiece. I did that,” with extreme pride and ownership. Are you living like a masterpiece? If so, how? If not, what’s holding you back?
5. KT: Pastor Joshua spoke about how our relationship with God the Father, through Christ Jesus, illuminates things (insights, wisdom, understanding) we wouldn’t naturally see on our own. Can you think of a time in your life that you were able to see with supernatural vision through faith? If so, what was revealed to you? If not, what could you do to help you become more aware of the revelations God has for you?
6. LT: Pastor Dave discussed how much like the citizens of Ephesus, we in DC are placed in a crossroads region. As such, we’ve been uniquely placed to be a part of the spiritual transformation taking place in our city. What level of responsibility do you feel knowing you’ve been uniquely and intentionally placed here and now for God’s purposes? In what crossroads have you been placed? How can you use those for God’s glory? **Note for Leaders:** *This question may provoke discussions about politics, especially related to social issues. While these aren’t bad discussions to have, we want to make sure that they remain healthy, productive, and positive, and we want to be careful that no one—especially people who may not currently be following Jesus—leaves thinking that to be a follower of Jesus you have to vote a certain way or believe something particular about a given issue.*
7. PY: Pastor Jon spoke about “identity idolatry” where we allow things other than Christ to define our life, our value, our dignity, and attempt to live in light of that. What are some potential “identity idols” in your life? What steps have you taken, or can you take, to align your identity in Christ?

Challenge:

Read, Pray, Act: Pray through Ephesians 1 and 2 using the Lectio Divina (“divine reading”) method.

1. **Read** through Ephesians 1 and 2 listening for the word or phrase that strikes you or stands out.
2. Read back through Ephesians 1 and 2 this time **reflecting** on the following

- questions:
- a. What is it in my life that needed to hear this word today?
 - b. How does this compare to how I live my life?
 - c. Where am I in this letter?
 - d. In what ways am I aligned to this passage?
 - e. What must be claimed today?
3. Read through Ephesians 1 and 2 again to **respond** to the following questions:
 - a. What is the invitation or challenge for us to respond to?
 - b. What is our response to God's invitation?
 4. This time, as you read through Ephesians 1 and 2, focus on **rest**.
 - a. Release and return to a place of rest in God.
 - b. Have a posture of total yieldedness.
 5. In the final time of reading through Ephesians 1 and 2, read it with **resolve** to carry this word and live it out.

Read, Pray, Act: Re-write Ephesians 1 in first person and to read it, pray it, and proclaim it first thing every morning for a week!