

'Man'

From the series: Conversations... on life, God, and other small topics – 10/14/12

Big Idea...

We all ask questions about who we are and what it means to be human. In order to figure this out, we need to look to what God says about us. He declares us to be created in His own image and thus our identity is based first and foremost in this truth. Furthermore, as believers our identity is found in Christ himself, who we are is who we are in Christ. This gives our lives meaning and purpose as we live on mission with and for God as His children.

Discussion Questions...

engaging the head::

- Suppose an atheist asks you 'what does it mean to be human?' How would you answer their question? Why would your answer mean anything to someone who does not believe in God? How would you thoughtfully and logically explain where your answer is coming from? Meaning, before one can answer the question, you must decide to whom or where you will turn to for an answer – so how would you be able to demonstrate to them the significance of turning towards God as opposed to science or philosophy for your answer?
- Being human means being made in the image of God – Imago Dei (Genesis 1:26-27). If we are made in God's image, what does that mean for who we are, our identity? How should we think about ourselves in light of being in His image?

engaging the heart::

- We often get confused about who we are and forget what's true about us in Christ. How does forgetting our identity in Christ lead to getting stuck in our lives? How can remembering our identity in Christ cause us to live lives honoring to God?
- For those whose faith is in Jesus, He declares the following to be true about our identity:
 1. You are a child of God! John 1:12
 2. You are new! 2 Corinthians 5:17
 3. You are not condemned! Romans 8:1
 4. You are safe – John 6:39
 5. You are empowered – Acts 1:8This is a rather short list – what else would you add to this list? Spend time not only naming the things that are true of us in Christ, but locate where Scriptures declares these things to be true of us.

engaging the hands::

- Practically speaking, how would our lives be different if we found our identity fully in Christ? How would we treat other people? How can remembering our identity lead to living a life on mission?

Announcements –

- **the City** – join GENESIS on the City! The City is a NEW way for GENESIS to communicate and connect people with others within the community. Request an invitation to join the City by going to genesischurch.onthecity.org
- **'workers'** – sign-up today to be a 'worker' at GENESIS. Learn more about SERVING with GENESIS by visiting the GENESIS website – <http://www.genesisjourney.com/blog/post/do-you-see-what-i-see>
- **This Sunday** – GENESIS will continue the 'Conversation' this Sunday by looking at – **Science**. Questions to be covered – Does modern science disprove God? How does one interpret what Science has discovered about the universe and what the Bible says about the universe? Is every Christian supposed to be a creationist? Is it possible to be a Christian and support the claims of evolution?