

Our Full Identity in Christ Jesus

An 11-Session Bible Study

Who We Are Because of What He Has Done

Includes: Greek & Hebrew Word Studies · Cross-Reference Trails
Reflection Questions · Personal Application
Group Discussion · Prayer Guides

"Christ in you, the hope of glory."

— **Colossians 1:27**

How to Use This Study

This study guide contains eleven sessions, one for each foundational truth of Christian identity covered in the blog series. Each session is designed for approximately 60–90 minutes of personal study, or 90 minutes in a group setting.

Each session includes:

Session Focus — a theological grounding for the identity truth, written in accessible language.

Greek/Hebrew Word Studies — the original language behind key terms, with context from the ancient world.

Cross-Reference Trail — connected Scriptures that develop the theme across the biblical narrative.

Reflection Questions — personal, honest questions designed to move from theology to your actual life.

Personal Application — concrete, specific practices to embody the truth this week.

Group Discussion — questions for open, honest conversation with others on the same journey.

Prayer — a closing prayer that speaks the truth back to God as a declaration and invitation.

A note on approach:

Christian identity is not motivational content. It is covenantal reality — statements about who you are based on what Christ has done. The goal of this study is not information accumulation but genuine reception: learning to live from truths that are already true, rather than striving toward an identity you're hoping to earn.

Go slowly. Return to sessions. Let the word studies open the text in new ways. Use the reflection questions honestly. Pray the prayers as your own — not as liturgy to perform but as declarations to receive.

You are not discovering who you should be. You are discovering who you already are in Christ.

SESSION 01

Justified

"Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

— Romans 5:1

◆ SESSION FOCUS

The word 'justified' (Greek: *dikaioō*) is courtroom language — a legal verdict of 'not guilty' issued by the judge. It's not that God is overlooking your guilt or promising to forgive if you do better. It's that the sentence was fully served by Jesus, and the verdict — declared righteous — has been permanently issued over you. Your standing with God is not based on your current performance. It is a finished legal reality.

◆ GREEK/HEBREW WORD STUDIES

δικαιόω
dikaioō

To justify, to declare righteous

Legal Greek verb — a judge's verdict of 'not guilty.' Aorist passive in Romans 5:1 (*dikaiōthentes*) — completed past action with ongoing results. Not a process; a declaration.

λογίζομαι
logizomai

To reckon, to credit, to count

Accounting term used in Romans 4. Abraham's faith was 'credited as righteousness.' God makes an entry in the ledger — Christ's righteousness credited to your account.

δικαιοσύνη
dikaïosynē

Righteousness

The noun form — righteous status. 2 Corinthians 5:21 says we become 'the righteousness of God' in Christ. Not just forgiven — given a status of righteousness itself.

◆ CROSS-REFERENCE TRAIL

Romans 3:21–26 The full theological explanation — God both just and the one who justifies.

Romans 4:1–8 Abraham and David — justification always by faith, never by works.

2 Corinthians 5:21 The 'great exchange' — our sin to him, his righteousness to us.

Galatians 2:16 No one is justified by works of the law.

Isaiah 53:11 The Servant who justifies many — Old Testament backdrop.

◆ REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. In your own words, what is the difference between being forgiven and being justified? Why does that distinction matter to you personally?

Your response...

2. Do you tend to feel that your standing with God goes up and down based on how you're doing spiritually? How does the courtroom picture of justification challenge that?

Your response...

3. Romans 5:1 says we have 'peace with God' as a result of justification. What does it feel like to approach God from that place of settled peace rather than ongoing uncertainty?

Your response...

◆ PERSONAL APPLICATION

→ Write out Romans 5:1 somewhere you'll see it daily this week. Whenever you feel spiritual condemnation, read it aloud as a declaration.

→ *Identify one area where you've been trying to earn God's acceptance. Bring it to God in prayer and consciously receive the verdict: not guilty.*

→ *Spend five minutes each morning this week telling God: 'I come to you not on the basis of my performance, but on the basis of Christ's righteousness credited to me.'*

◆ **GROUP DISCUSSION**

1. Share a time when you felt your standing with God was fragile — dependent on your behavior. What was that like?
2. How does the legal/courtroom metaphor either help or limit your understanding of what God has done? What other metaphors resonate with you?
3. If justification is truly a finished verdict, what does that mean for the way we should handle guilt, shame, and failure going forward?
4. Why do you think Christians (yourself included) so often live as though the verdict hasn't been issued — as though we're still on trial?

◆ **PRAYER**

*Father, I come to you today not on the basis of what I've done or failed to do,
but on the basis of what Christ has accomplished.*

I receive the verdict you've declared over me: righteous, justified, at peace with you.

Where I've been living as though I'm still on trial — forgive me, and help me to live from the verdict.

Let the peace of Romans 5:1 be not just theology I know, but ground I stand on.

In Jesus's name. Amen.