

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 06

Sanctified

"By one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy."

— Hebrews 10:14

◆ SESSION FOCUS

Sanctification exists in two biblical dimensions that must be held together: positional (you are already set apart, declared holy, consecrated to God — past tense, completed) and progressive (your character, desires, and Christlikeness are genuinely growing over time — present tense, ongoing). The error of perfectionism is treating the progressive as though it determines the positional. The error of passivity is treating the positional as though the progressive doesn't matter. Hebrews 10:14 holds both in a single sentence: made perfect forever AND being made holy.

◆ GREEK/HEBREW WORD STUDIES

ἁγιάζω
hagiazō

To sanctify, to set apart, to make holy

From hagios (holy, set apart). 1 Corinthians 6:11 uses aorist passive — ἔγιγασθητε — you were sanctified, completed past. In OT, objects were 'sanctified' for temple use — not because they were perfect, but because God claimed them. Same logic applies to you.

ἁγιασμός

Sanctification (process), holiness

hagiasmos

Noun form indicating ongoing process/state. 1 Thessalonians 4:3 — 'this is God's will: your sanctification.' Romans 6:19,22 — slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. The progressive dimension — movement toward Christlikeness over a lifetime.

τελειώσις
teleiōsis

Completion, maturity, perfection

Hebrews uses this word-family for what Christ's sacrifice accomplished — Hebrews 10:14: 'made perfect (teteleiōken) forever those being made holy.' The perfect tense indicates a permanent, completed state. Positional sanctification is complete. Progressive continues.

◆ **CROSS-REFERENCE TRAIL**

- 1 Corinthians 6:11** You were sanctified — past tense, positional, complete.
- 1 Thessalonians 4:3** Your sanctification is God's will — the ongoing call to Christlikeness.
- Philippians 2:12–13** Work out what God works in — the cooperative nature of progressive sanctification.
- 2 Corinthians 3:18** Transformed from glory to glory — the Spirit's progressive work.
- Philippians 1:6** He who began a good work will carry it to completion — God is the guarantor of the process.

◆ **REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

1. Do you relate more to positional or progressive sanctification? Which one do you tend to forget, and how does that affect your daily life?

Your response...

2. Philippians 2:12–13 says 'work out' what God 'works in.' What does that cooperative relationship look like practically? What is your part? What is God's?

Your response...

3. Think about a specific area of Christlikeness you've genuinely grown in over the past few years. What did that growth feel like? How did it happen — by striving or by something else?

Your response...

◆ PERSONAL APPLICATION

→ Draw a timeline of your sanctification in one area of your life (a sin pattern, a relationship quality, a spiritual discipline). Mark where you were, where you are, and where you're being shaped toward. Give thanks for the journey so far.

→ This week, when you fall short in an area of holiness, practice this two-step response: (1) 'I am already set apart — this doesn't determine my identity.' (2) 'The Spirit is shaping me — this is part of the process, not proof of failure.'

→ Read *Philippians 2:12–13* slowly every day this week. Ask God to show you what you need to 'work out' — and then ask him to 'work in' the will and the ability to do it.

◆ GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What's the danger of focusing only on positional sanctification (already holy) without taking progressive sanctification seriously? What does that look like in practice?
2. What's the danger of focusing only on progressive sanctification (becoming holy) without the security of positional sanctification? What does that look like?
3. How does understanding that 'God works in you to will and to act' (*Philippians 2:13*) change the way you approach habits, spiritual disciplines, and moral struggles?
4. Share a specific area where you've experienced genuine progressive sanctification — where the Spirit has changed something in you over time.

◆ PRAYER

Father, I receive what your Word declares: I have been sanctified — set apart, claimed, made holy in Christ.

And I trust your ongoing work in me: you are not finished.

You began this work. You will complete it.

Where I've been striving in my own effort — teach me to cooperate with your Spirit instead.

Where I've been passive, treating holiness as already fully arrived — stir me to pursue what you've called me to.

Shape me into the image of your Son.

Amen.