

NEXT LEVEL RELATIONSHIPS: The Man in the Mirror — Identity
Romans 8:14–17

Talking points:

1. Our Identity
2. Their Identity
3. In Relationships

Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study

For Starters: Discuss the following statement: We often identify ourselves by our past mistakes. Has this been true for you? Would you agree or disagree that we tend to identify others in the same way?

The Basics: Many of our relationships struggle because we fail to see ourselves and others in light of who God has made us to be. Let's dive into the Scriptures together and discuss.

Quick-Fire Round

1. Read Romans 8:14–17, Psalm 139:14, and Galatians 2:20. After reading the passages, what were the key descriptors you saw about who we are to God?
2. Paul uses the same reasoning in Galatians 4:3–7 as he does Romans 8:14–17. Note the similarities between the two passages. Why do you think Paul's emphasis on identity of who we are in Christ is so important to the churches to which he is writing? Does it carry the same importance in our lives? Why or why not?
3. According to the truth of Romans 8:14-17, we and our fellow believers are adopted sons and daughters of the God of the universe and coheirs with Christ. How does knowing our true identity play out in our relationships with those around us?
4. Why do we often devalue ourselves and others? Do you think this could be why our relationships struggle? Read Genesis 1:27. How would living out of this truth affect our relationships with others?
5. The reality is that relationships are hard and messy. What is one step you can take this week to view yourself and others in the identity God has given us?

Pray Together (individually or in groups)

Prayer: *Father, thank you for how you have created us in your image. Help us to understand our true identity as adopted sons and daughters of you. Help us to live out of this identity in our relationships with others and you.*

For more on Identity: *Identity: Because of Christ You Are More Than A Number*, by Eric Masson, <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/297>.