

## “COMING TO TERMS WITH WHO I REALLY AM”

New Me, Part 6  
September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Your identity impacts your whole life

Once you become a Christian you assume a brand new identity

The Christian life is not an effort to keep a bunch of rules & laws to please God

The Christian life is an expression of who you truly already are, – the “New Me”

As long as you are mentally and emotionally locked into indentifying with who you used to be, you’ll continue to live that way because you think you have no choice

To see practical change in my everyday life, I must choose to believe what God has said is true about me and choose to identify with this “New Me”

Romans 8:5 (NIV) “Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.”

- The “flesh,” our “sinful nature,” urges us to satisfy my appetite

There is a way to satisfy our soul, but the “flesh” is never satisfied

- The “flesh” is fueled by the fear of “what may be,” the spirit is fueled by the confidence of “what is”

“W hat i f” is the mind of the flesh

Through the “New Me” the confidence I have in “what is” gives me peace & security

- The “flesh” pushes me to establish my identity; the Spirit encourages me to rest in my identity

Romans 8:6 (NLT) “If your sinful nature controls your mind, there is death. But if the Holy Spirit controls your mind, there is life and peace.”

Whenever a person tries to establish and fulfill an identity based on their desires & the things of this world, somewhere along the way there will be death

An identity based on how God sees us produces life and peace because we don’t have to be afraid of what might happen and “what if”

Proverbs 23:7 (NAS) “For as he thinks within himself, so he is.”

Romans 8:7-8 (NLT) “For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God’s laws, and it never will. That’s why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God.”

Romans 8:9 (GN) "But you do not live as your human nature tells you to; instead, you live as the Spirit tells you to..."

Romans 8:10 (NCV) "Your body will always be dead because of sin. But if Christ is in you, then the Spirit gives you life, because Christ made you right with God."

Romans 8:11 (NLT) "The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as He raised Christ from the dead, He will give life to your mortal body by this same Spirit living within you."

The same Spirit that dwelt in Christ & raised Him back to physical life dwells in you, and can give you power over the desires of the flesh and enable you to say "NO" to sin

Romans 8:12 (GN) "So then, my friends, we have an obligation, but it is not to live as our human nature wants us to."

Sin wants to continually drag you back to your old identity, but you don't have to go

Romans 8:13-15 (GN/NAS) "For if you live according to your human nature, you are going to die; but if by the Spirit you put to death your sinful actions, you will live. For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

We have been adopted into God's family

Romans 8:16,17 (NAS/NLT) "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. And since we are His children, we will share His treasures – for everything God gives to His Son, Christ, is ours, too."

Key Question – Which identity will you choose to identify with?

**My Next Step Today Is:**

- I am asking God to help me consistently choose to identify with the "New Me" in Christ
- I will memorize Romans 8:12
- I can help at the Kids Festival on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>