



All Christians' Fellowship International

INTERACTIVE SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE FOR YOUTHS AND YOUNG ADULTS

Who Am I?

Overview

Summary

Through the *Who Am I?* You will invite students to explore their identity, how they search for it and find it. Identity is found in and received from God, So why are so many of us still exhausting ourselves trying to find meaning and purpose? In today's lesson, you'll explore how we can have confidence in our identity as children of God because of his great love for us and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Key Takeaways

We can be sure because the Bible is true.

We can be sure because he calls us his own.

We can be sure through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Scriptures

2 Timothy 3:16-17 / Ephesians 1:4-5 / Romans 8:31-39 / John 14:16-18 / John 16:13

Lesson 3 Script

Introduction

Everyone, at one point or another, has asked themselves the question, “Who am I?” There are even fields of study dedicated to asking and attempting to answer that question.

Self-help books, podcasts, and shows have infiltrated our society and provide us with one pep talk after another. TV shows, movies, and even commercials assure and affirm that we’re good-looking, worth it, smart, and strong. So why do we struggle to believe it?

Transition

Maybe because we know, deep down, that we will never be satisfied with what the world has to offer us. That these sources are constantly changing their minds about how to define our identity or what is the good and right way to be or example to follow. There is one Source that does not waver, does not change its mind - the Bible.

In 2 Timothy 3:16-17 we read, **All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.**

Point #1: We can be sure because the Bible is true.

First and foremost, we look to God’s Word, the Bible, We look to God’s Word, the Bible, because it communicates God’s truth to us by revealing God’s heart towards his people.

We read in the book of Genesis that God created the world, and day by day, he looked and said it was good. Then he created people. He made them, man and woman, in a very intimate and purposeful way: He used the dust of the ground to form Adam and one of Adam’s ribs to form Eve and then he, himself, breathed life into them. God declared that people were made in his image.

The creation story not only shows us that we belong to God but that we were made to reflect him to the world. Every single one of us is valuable and made for a purpose. We don’t have to achieve our worth; we receive it from God himself. God knows us, loves us, and cares for us. We are his.

But we forgot that. Culture clamors around us, noisily telling us who they think we are or should be, encouraging us to look to ourselves and to others to find the answers.

We know that we need to look to God. Jesus offers us hope and is living proof that we are valuable to God - so valuable that God would send his own Son to die in our place and live again so we could experience the love and freedom of new life.

Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.
Ephesians 1:4-5

Point #2: We can be sure because he calls us his own.

God demonstrated his love for us through Jesus, and when we follow him, we belong to him. Nothing can ever change, shake, weaken, or destroy that belonging. He chose us and adopted us into his family. We can have confidence in our identity as a child of God and in his love for us!

What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else? Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? (As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:31-39

God is FOR US! He loves us. And no matter what, we can never be separated from that love! Not our choices, our past trauma, our sin, or our confusion can make God stop loving us.

When God sees you, he sees you as you were meant to be - whole, confident, and safe in his love. He made you, and his works, and creations, are wonderful! Psalm 139:13-14

So why do we rush back to defining ourselves according to our mistakes and our sin? To doubting who we are in Jesus and the purpose he has for us?

The answer is simple, we need help. And God gives us that help through his personal, active presence in our lives - the Holy Spirit. Before Jesus returned to heaven, he told his followers:

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you." John 14:16-18

Point #3: We can be sure through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus promised that he would not abandon his followers; instead, God the Father gives us the Holy Spirit, his presence, to empower us in our purpose and enable us to receive our God-given identity. When we follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit works in our hearts and lives. The Holy Spirit guides us and comforts us - even when we struggle with finding our identity. He empowers us to follow Jesus faithfully and encourages us as we grow in our relationship with God.

The Holy Spirit also helps us to understand and grow as we read the Bible and apply it to our lives. Jesus says in John 16:13, “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth.” In other words, the Holy Spirit guides us into the truth of the Bible and who we are as God’s children.

With the power of the Holy Spirit, we are able to walk confidently in the truth that our identity rests in God. We’re free to live life confidently and boldly by his power working in us.

So how can we see the Holy Spirit guiding and empowering us in our everyday lives? Maybe you’re reading the Bible and a verse just pops off the page and speaks to where you are right now! Maybe the Holy Spirit works through a friend, leader, or mentor to share wisdom, or words of hope into your life. The Holy Spirit is with you and wants to play an active part of your life.

Closing

We’re not alone in our struggle to remember who we are in Jesus. We have God’s Word and the Holy Spirit guiding us into the truth of what God says about us.

We have the assurance of being children of God through adoption into his family. Remember these words from the Bible: **Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. Ephesians 1:4-5**

And we have the personal presence of God, the Holy Spirit, taking action in our lives to remind us of and affirm our identity as children of God, enabling us to walk confidently in the truth that our identity rests in him.

“Who am I?” and “How can I know?” - they aren’t unsettled questions: They are established and firm truths we can build our life upon.

Through Jesus, we are forgiven and fully restored into relationship with God, and the Holy Spirit, God’s presence here with us, helps us live out our true identity.

Discussion Questions

1. How does knowing that you are loved and adopted into God’s family change the way you feel about your identity?
2. What does it mean to have the Holy Spirit with us and in us to live out our identity as children of God? What does this look like?