

IDENTITY IN CHRIST

9TH GRADE

OBJECTIVE

Help your student understand that their identity is secure in Christ—not in popularity, performance, or appearance—and how to live confidently in that truth.

WHAT TO KNOW

By 9th grade, your student is wrestling with the question “Who am I?” They are entering a season of deeper self-discovery, and the world offers plenty of answers based on ever-changing standards: looks, achievements, social circles. It’s easy for them to feel pressure to fit in, to perform, or to reinvent themselves to gain approval. But Scripture offers a better answer. In Christ, your student is already chosen, loved, redeemed, and secure. Their identity doesn’t have to shift with trends or social status. When your student believes and lives from their true identity in Christ, they develop confidence that stands strong even when the world tries to define them otherwise.

TRUTH FROM THE BIBLE

For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world... He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ. Ephesians 1:4–5 NIV

You are not an accident—God chose you and invited you into His family.

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. Ephesians 1:7 NIV

Jesus paid the price to forgive and free you from sin.

You are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:26 NIV

Your true identity is found in your relationship with Jesus.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV

Following Jesus means your past no longer defines you.

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Romans 8:16 NIV

God’s Spirit reminds us that we truly belong to Him.



IDENTITY IN CHRIST

9TH GRADE

TALK ABOUT IT

- What does it mean to you to be “chosen by God”?
- How would your day-to-day life change if you really believed your identity was secure in Christ?
- When is it hardest to live like your identity is rooted in God’s truth?

Start by asking where your student thinks most people their age find their identity. Talk about how culture pushes them to base it on relationships, popularity, performance, or social media—but those things don’t last. Then ask what it might look like to build their identity on something unchanging—like what God says is true. Share your own story if you’ve ever looked for identity in the wrong places and how Jesus offers something better.

LIVE IT OUT

Help your student identify any false labels they’ve believed—whether from others or from themselves. Then help them replace those lies with truth from Scripture. Encourage them to write down a few identity statements rooted in God’s Word, and talk about simple ways to keep those truths front and center—like saving a verse as their phone background, setting a daily reminder, or posting a sticky note on their mirror.

You could even do this together to show how you stay grounded in truth. For example: “I am chosen and loved by God. I am not defined by my mistakes. I am a child of God with a purpose. I belong to Christ and don’t have to earn acceptance.”

PRAY TOGETHER

Take a moment to pray over your student. Invite God to help them stand firm in their identity in Him and walk in His truth.

"God, thank You for choosing us and calling us Your children. Help us remember that our identity is not found in what we do, what others say, or what we feel—but in You. Give us the courage to live like we belong to You every day. Fill us with Your truth when we’re tempted to believe lies. Help us to see ourselves the way You see us. Amen."

