

# STEP UP IN FAITH

## OUR IDENTITY IN GOD

### OPENING GAME - "THE WONDER THAT WE ARE" TRIVIA COMPETITION



#### QUICK REVIEW

- The Great 2 Questions of the human life are:
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- Do we have proof that God created the world?
- What are some of the consequences you face if you say that God didn't make all of this?

#### HOMEWORK: HOW WOULD YOU FINISH THIS QUESTION?

God, why did you create the world in a way that \_\_\_\_\_?



#### DIVIDE THESE 8 WORDS INTO 2 CATEGORIES

God      Rocks      Angels      Demons      Trees      People      Animals      Heaven

One way? The way we are taught to divide them:

#### PHYSICAL

ROCKS  
TREES  
PEOPLE  
ANIMALS

#### SPIRITUAL

GOD  
ANGELS  
DEMONS  
HEAVEN



A better way?

#### CREATOR

GOD

#### CREATION

ROCKS      TREES      HEAVEN  
ANGELS      PEOPLE      DEMONS

ANIMALS

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### IF WE BELIEVE THAT GOD IS THE CREATOR:

- Everything belongs to Him since He created it.
- We humans own nothing. We simply use what already belongs to God.
- God owns all people! Your very life is loaned to you by God and you are to take care of what He gives you.



#### Reflection time:

*Read Luke 12:13-21.* As you listen to this section of the Bible, what does God say is actually important in our lives? What does the world say is important in our lives?

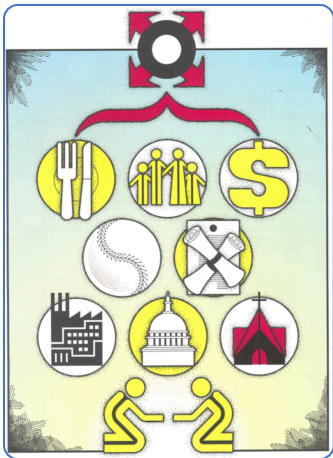
Have you ever struggled with how God created you? If so, what makes accepting that so hard?

### AN INTRODUCTION TO IDENTITY

Has anyone ever asked you, "How do you identify?" That's a very common question in today's world! Understanding your identity is a critical part of what it means to be human.

An "identity" is a quality, belief, expression, look, or role that make up a person or a group.

### WHAT ARE SOME OF THE DIFFERENT IDENTITIES THAT YOU HAVE?



### A LIST OF POSSIBLE IDENTITIES, TO NAME A FEW

- Family and Relationships (I'm a daughter / I'm a friend)
- Job or work (I'm a student / I'm a pilot)
- Desires or interests (I'm a Cowboys fan / I'm a foodie)
- Biological (I'm 15 years old / I'm a redhead)
- Governmental (I'm from Argentina / I'm a citizen)
- Gender/Sexual (I'm straight / I'm non-binary)
- Social (I'm rich / I'm not socially accepted)
- Racial/Cultural (I'm Black / I'm Japanese)
- Self-Image (I'm beautiful / I'm boring)
- Religious (I'm a Christian / I'm an atheist)



WHICH IDENTITIES ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO THE WORLD AROUND US?  
AND WHICH IDENTITIES ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO GOD?

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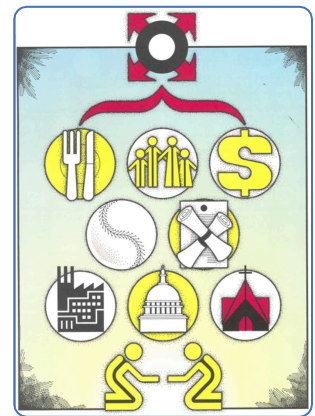
Write down next to each one of these what God says about your identity.

- Isaiah 43:1 I am...
- John 15:5 I am...
- Romans 8:14-15 I am...
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 I am...
- Galatians 5:1 I am...
- Ephesians 2:19 I am...
- Galatians 5:13 I am...
- 1 John 4:16-18 I am...

The most important identity we have: you are *a child of God*.

Because God created us, everything about us reflects Him. Every other identity we have is secondary to this identity. This means we are going to be faced with some difficult choices in our life, as the world around us says things like “you have to be rich” or “you have to be beautiful” or “you have to do this” to be acceptable.

But God says you are acceptable simply because He made you. Simply because He saves you. Simply because He chooses you.



Reflection time:

Go to YouTube and search for “Misplaced Identity: A Visual Poem.” This poem is written by a young woman named Teion Freeman.

How would you summarize what she is trying to say in one sentence?  
Do you feel the same pressure she describes?

## YOUR HOMEWORK

Talk with someone you trust/respect about their understanding of identity in Christ. What worldly messages are the hardest ones for them to wrestle with? What is the greatest comfort they find in their identity in Christ?