

session two

you are a new person

Read John 1:12-13

The most amazing thing has happened to you. Because you have put your faith in Jesus and decided to follow Him, God has become your Father – you have become His child.

This may be a shock for you to hear:
not everyone is a child of God.
The bible is clear this special relationship
is only reserved for those who put
their faith in Jesus.

God is a good Father and is committed to:

- Love you
- Provide for you
- Protect you

As a child of God you are now completely:

- Accepted
- Forgiven (EPHESIANS 1:4-6)

Q: How does knowing you are a child of God impact you?

FORGIVENESS

Read Matthew 6:14-15

It's very important to understand that God requires us to forgive others. We have been forgiven so much and now God asks us to offer the same forgiveness to others.

Forgiveness:

- Is not a feeling
- Isn't because someone earned it or deserved it
- Is a choice

Forgive ...and you will be forgiven!

Q: Who do you need to forgive?

Make a list and tell God you choose to forgive each one.

(This will set you free!)

THE NEW YOU

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17

Not only are you a child of God, you have also become an entirely new person. The old you is gone and God has made you new! You are in Christ and Christ is in you!

To understand the change that has taken place here is a comparison of the "old" and the "new" you:

THE OLD YOU

THE NEW YOU (IN CHRIST)

A slave to sin
(ROMANS 6:6)

Set free from sin
(ROMANS 6:7)

Under the power of darkness
(COLOSSIANS 1:13)

Free in God's kingdom of love
(COLOSSIANS 1:13)

Separated from God,
without hope (EPHESIANS 2:12)

United with God in Christ
(1 CORINTHIANS 6:17)

Rejected and guilty
(JOHN 8:24)

Accepted and blameless
(EPHESIANS 1:4)

An enemy of God
(COLOSSIANS 1:21)

God's child, loved and forgiven
(JOHN 1:12)

A Christian isn't just a *better* person –
a Christian is a *new* person.

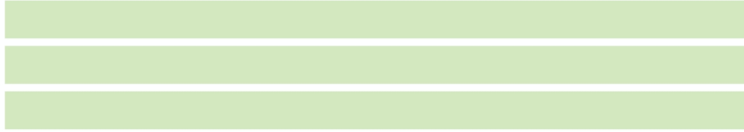
Your identity has changed because God has made you new. You need to see yourself as God sees you!

This is how God wants you to see yourself:

- I am a child of God (JOHN 1:12)
- I am loved by God and nothing can separate me from His love (ROMANS 8:35)
- I am His friend (JOHN 15:15)
- I have been chosen by Him (JOHN 15:16)
- I am forgiven (COLOSSIANS 1:14)
- He has a good plan for my life (JEREMIAH 29:11)
- I am a citizen of heaven (PHILIPPIANS 3:20)
- Christ lives in me (GALATIANS 2:20)
- I am a new creation, the old has gone, the new has come. (2 CORINTHIANS 5:17)

session two – you are a new person

Q: *Looking at this list, which truths really impact you?*



WATER BAPTISM

Have you ever heard of water baptism? Jesus commands all believers to be baptised – to be totally immersed in water. It is an outward sign of what has happened to you.

Read Acts 2:38

As you are immersed in water, it is a symbol of your old life being buried in Christ. As you come up out of the water it is a symbol that you are now raised to a new life.

Read Romans 6:3-5

Points to remember:

God has accepted you and forgiven you.
He is your Father, you are His child. All this is true simply because you BELIEVE!

You are a new creation, the old has gone and God has made you new. You have a fresh start, a new beginning, a new life.

Action step:

Look back over the list of who you are in Christ, write these scriptures down and put them in a visible place. At every opportunity, read them out loud and thank God that this is the truth about you.

Talk to your pastor and discipler about being baptised soon.