

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: 10 "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' 13 But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 18:9-14)

### III. Union with Christ: Recovering a Foundational Truth

Definition: The expression union with Christ refers to the believer's solidarity or association with Christ, by the Holy Spirit and through faith, by virtue of which believers partake of his saving benefits. (R. Gaffin)

*The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. (John 17:22-23)*

*For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:17)*

Because of our union with Christ, we are justified.  
Because we died with Christ and rose with him, we are being sanctified.  
Because Christ has been raised, we will be raised with him.

*Our union with Christ forms our new identities:*  
God's chosen people; sheep of his pasture; accepted in the beloved; priests unto God; a royal nation; living sacrifices; co-heirs with Christ; co-laborers with God

# IDENTITY

## Who Determines Who We Are?

### Class 5: Identity in Relationship to God

#### **Bread of Life Fellowship**

65 Oakwood Ave, Kearny NJ

Bolkearny.org

fb.com/bolkearny

instagram.com/bolkearny

sermonaudio.com/breadoflife

Sunday worship @1:30pm

Tuesday Prayer or Bible Study @7:15pm

# Identity in Relationship to God

## I. Human Identity with and without a Relationship with God

All Humans	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are fearfully and wonderfully made <i>For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:13-14a)</i></li> <li>Bear the <i>Imago Dei</i> <i>So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.</i></li> <li>Have eternal souls <i>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life (Matthew 25:46)</i></li> </ul>	
Apart from God, We Are . . .	With a Relationship with God, We Are . . .
Sinners <i>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23)</i>	Saints <i>To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints (Romans 1:7)</i>
Lost <i>For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost. (Luke 19:10)</i>	Saved <i>if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9)</i>
Dead in sin <i>And you were dead in the trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1)</i>	Dead to sin <i>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. (Romans 6:11)</i>
Perishing <i>For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing (1 Corinthians 1:18)</i>	Made alive <i>[God] made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the</i>

	<i>heavenly places in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:5-6)</i>
Apart from God, We Are . . .	With a Relationship with God, We Are . . .
Objects of wrath <i>whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him. (John 3:36)</i>	Objects of mercy <i>Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:10)</i>
Separated from God <i>but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear. (Isaiah 59:2)</i>	Reconciled to God <i>And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him (Colossians 1:21-22)</i>
Children of the devil <i>You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. (John 8:44)</i>	Children of God <i>See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. (1 John 3:1)</i>
Destined for Judgment <i>For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. (Romans 2:12)</i>	Bound for Heaven <i>For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. (2 Corinthians 5:1)</i>

## II. How to Change Your Identity

*In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13)*