

Small Group Discussion Guide

“WHO ARE YOU” (pt. 2) – 11.10.2013

Scripture: Psalm 139:1-24

Bottom Line: You are Created, Known and Loved by God.

INTRODUCTION:

What does it mean to be known by someone? Would you say people truly know your real identity or do you hide certain things from others? Why do you think you try to hide certain parts of who you are from other people?

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

Read Psalm 139:1-12

We are personally and completely known by the All-Knowing God! This completely eliminates us from trying to hide particular parts of our lives. God even knows the very words we are going to speak before we utter them. Those dark thoughts that run through your mind that you don't want anybody to know... He knows them. Those things in your past that you desperately try to hide... He knows them and still loves you.

- 1) You and I both struggle with sin. Some of these sins are played out in our lives, but most of them are hidden in our thoughts. However, these thoughts are not hidden from God. Even in light of these things He calls us His sons and daughters. His grace, not our good thoughts, dictate his love for us. God is not in heaven with a lightning bolt waiting to strike you down when you mess up. Rather, He is a loving Father who created you and loves you deeply.
 - a) How does this change the way you view God?
 - b) How does this change how you think God views you?

Read Psalm 139:13-18

Because of God you are here. You are not a mistake or surprise to Him. He formed you in your mother's womb and provides the air for you to breath. He holds all the galaxies and planets together in order for you to live the

days He planned out for you. These verses reveal a God who is active and in perfect control during the best and worst times of our lives!

- 1) God made you, loves you and wants you. Does this change the way you view your life and value? Why or why not?

Read Psalm 139:19-23

This is me! This is you! God would say, "Even in your passion for me, I have found something that's not of me: hate and death. I love my enemies. I send my Son to die for the least, last, and the lost." We ALL need God to search and reveal our hearts to us. God physically created us and continues to re-create our new identity in light of His grace toward us. Thankfully, His work in our lives is everlasting! We are God's forever when we are led by Jesus the Savior.

- 1) God loves us enough to search us and re-create our new identity in Him. How have you felt Him work this out in your own life?
- 2) Once you are in Jesus you are in Him forever! How does this free you from worry or doubt when it comes to God's love for you?

UNDERSTANDING HOW THE GOSPEL APPLIES TO MY LIFE:

As Christians, we find our identity in Jesus alone. He went to the furthest lengths in order to save us and call us His own. His love for us reveals our worth. We are valuable to the God of all creation! This is what defines who we are. We don't have to live up to a certain standard that society creates in order to feel value. Our value is found in being sons and daughters of God. This frees us to live lives that make much of Him. We no longer have to impress or satisfy someones expectations. Our value is not found in a nice home, great job or perfect family. Our value is secure in Jesus. We are His, forever. Embrace your identity in Him alone. Rejoice that you are CREATED, LOVED and KNOWN by the One who rules over everything!

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

- 1) What are some practical ways for you to remember God's love and affection for you?
- 2) God hasn't just saved you for yourself. He's loved you so that you can love others. How can you love others in your daily life as God has loved you?