MISSION|GROUPS
Connect to Christ ~ Connect to Community

Series: Identity, Who You Are in Christ
Passage: Ephesians 1:12-14
Title: Your Identity in Christ, Part 5
Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper 5/17/2026

Discussion Starter –What is the difference between a transaction and a relationship? How do these verses describe God's plan, work, and empowering us to bring us into a relationship with Him, (creature with Creator), and not simply a transactional exchange, (sinner to saint)?

Read Ephesians 1:3-14

1. What God's great plan for us who are "the faithful in Christ Jesus", (verses 3-6)?

2. What detailed privileges are already ours who are "in Christ", (verses 7-12)?

3. Read verse 10. What is the ultimate outcome of God's comprehensive plan? When will it occur?

Read Ephesians 1:12 and 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

4. How is God's glory uniquely revealed in the lives of those of us who have put our trust in Him?

5. Why is the preaching of the cross foolishness or weakness to those who are perishing? How is God's wisdom and power revealed in the cross?

    a. Do you recall a time when these truths were complete mysteries to you? How has the Holy Spirit opened your understanding of God's word? (see "c" below)

Read John 16:7-14

6. Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as "the Promise of My Father", (Luke 24:49), What is significant about this title? What is the role of the Holy Spirit described in these verses in John 16? What is significant about the term, "Helper"?

    b. What misunderstandings have you had or have you witnessed about the person and role of the Holy Spirit? What does He do? What doesn't He do for believers?

    c. How did a believer's relationship with the Holy Spirit change after Pentecost?

Read Ephesians 1:13-14

7. What action by believers is said to precede our being sealed with the Holy Spirit? (What is significant about His full title in this verse, the Holy Spirit of promise)?

8. What does it mean to be sealed by the Holy Spirit?

9. What is meant that the Holy Spirit is a "guarantee (or earnest), of our inheritance"?

    d. Considering the finished work of Christ and the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit, who or what can separate you from your relationship with God, your salvation, and your inheritance? What does that confidence empower you to do?

10. We are described as a "purchased possession" though not yet redeemed in verse 14. Unpack this metaphor. When will our redemption be complete, fulfilling the guarantee, (Romans 8:22-23)?