

KNOW WHO YOU ARE

Discussion Notes

MASTERPEICE

This series we will be exploring identity. The key idea is that if you don't know who God has called you to be, you'll never achieve what God has called you to do. So start with a general discussion about identity:

- Where do we look to find our identity?
- What robs us of knowing who God has called us to be?

Philip explained that this series is a chance for us to dive deeper into scripture. One way you may want to do this is by practising 'lectio divina' together. This is a way of reading small passages of scripture that has been practised by the Church for thousands of years. First you just slowly read Ephesians 2:8-10, then you read it again but this time ask God to point out something for you in this moment, finally pray through the passage together sharing what God was saying through it. Here is a priest (not quite what you expect) explaining it if that helps.

Read Ephesians 2:1-10

"WE ARE GOD'S HANDIWORK..."

The word 'handiwork' is often translated as masterpiece. It is the same phrase used to describe God creating the world in a way in which shows off his power in Romans 1. Just as the wonders of the universe show of God's glory, so do you!

- What does it mean for us to be God's 'masterpiece'?
- What stops us understanding this?

"CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS..."

The word created means 'transformed'; as we follow Jesus we receive a new identity.

- What does Ephesians 2:1-7 teach us about what it means to be transformed in Christ?
- What does it teach us about the spiritual forces that try and rob us of our identity?

"TO DO GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD PREPARED IN ADVANCE..."

- Philip said, "we are not saved by good works, but saved for good works". What does this mean?
- The phrase 'to do' actually means 'to walk in'. Do you agree that we have a destiny to walk in? How do we actually do this?
- How does identity theft stop us from walking in the good works God has prepared for us?
- Philip shared his story of discovering the good works God had prepared for him in evangelism. Does anyone have a sense of what this might mean for them?