

Identity in Relationships

Discussion Questions

1. Have you been in a relationship before? What were your expectations? (Were they met?)

Read Matthew 22:34-40

Jesus replied: *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.”*

2. How does loving yourself enhance your ability to love other people?
3. What does it mean to love yourself?
4. Who in your life has the most influence on your identity? (can be positive or negative influence)
5. What are the common ways people your age lose their identities in others?

Read Exodus 32:1-14

6. When Moses was away on Mount Sinai receiving the 10 Commandments, the Israelites made a golden calf to worship. Reading this passage, why do you think it was easy for them to be confused if they were doing the right or wrong thing?
7. What parts of this passage sound like good and Godly things that the Israelites are doing?
8. Think of a time when you did something you didn't think was so bad in the moment but realized later was something that compromised your identity.
9. The Israelites got impatient waiting for Moses and for affirmation from God, so they put their identity in something else (a golden calf). Sometimes the people we look to for validation and identity become like idols we “worship.” When our insecurities stem from idolizing--whether it's a significant other or public figure--we place our own worth on our perceptions of another person. Sometimes our insecurities can blind us from seeing God's love for us. Although your idol isn't a golden calf, what do you change about yourself or give up for others (your idols)? What are you “sacrificing” to make your idols happy?

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Read 1 John 4:14-21

10. What do you think this passage means when it says “perfect love?” What is perfect love to you?
11. Give an example of a successful relationship you’ve had and how knowing your identity in Christ helped you.