

SISTERHOOD LOUNGE ROOM

From our lounge room to yours

Identity: Voices That Shape Us - Part 1

Welcome back to the Sisterhood Lounge Room! We will be unpacking the key topic of identity over October and November. Alongside this episode, we have here highlighted the key scriptures and thoughts shared as well as questions to use in your group discussion or in your own personal devotion ... enjoy!

“See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.” – 1 John 3:1

“Be yourself because everyone else is taken” - Oscar Wilde

Nicola began by saying that identity is fundamental for discovering who we are and determining the convictions of our heart. Without a deep revelation of who we are, we struggle to move forward, grow, or walk in our purpose.

Ana explained that identity in psychological terms includes not only how we see ourselves, but also how we identify within groups, the values we were brought up with, and the different roles we play in life such as our occupation or family commitments. If we base our identity too heavily on our circumstances, when they alter, such as, when a job ends, or children leave home, we can feel lost.

Katie added that there are so many voices in culture telling us who we are and therefore it is crucial to measure these messages against the truth of the Word of God.

Q - If someone were to ask you, “who are you” how would you answer?

Q - When it comes to your identity what have been the most influencing factors in your life?

Q - Is there a time that you felt lost or confused about who you are or who you are “meant” to be? How did you find clarity?

“Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.” - Deuteronomy 30:19

Christine shared her story of when after 11 years of marriage, she found herself single again and relocating back to the UK. In a short period of time, her relationship, her job, her surroundings changed and all the labels that used to define her were stripped away. She described how in the midst of these changes she realised what remained: her status as a beloved child of God. She rebuilt her life by being rooted in scripture and in her heavenly father.



Natasha said that it is easy to become consumed with how culture expects us to behave and forget the truth of who we are. We need to fix our eyes on the creator – God defines who we are; when we get a revelation of how God sees us, this will enable us to live according to how we were created.

Q - If you find yourself in a season where you are questioning your identity, like Christine did, what practices can you build into your everyday to root yourself in the truth about who you are created to be?

Q - What unhelpful labels have defined you? Have these been labels you have put on yourself or someone else has put on you?



Q - How do you stay mindful that as believers we are first and foremost citizens of heaven not of earth, even though our daily reality is living on earth with all its pervading views and beliefs.

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” - Romans 12:2



Final Thought

“It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living...” - Ephesians 1:11-12 (MSG)



Glorious means beautiful in a way that inspires wonder and joy and means highly enjoyable! When we know who we are in Christ we can do glorious living regardless of our circumstances. May this be our every increasing reality. Amen.

