

AstepFURTHER

DIVING DEEPER INTO SUNDAY'S SERMON

A resource of First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale for individuals, families, and small groups that offers deeper insights into the previous Sunday's scripture text and sermon.

From the Sermon on 10/5/25 "Faith and Identity in Christ"

Scripture: Luke 17:5-6

Opening Prayer: "Gracious and loving God, as we gather today to study your Word, open our hearts and minds to understand the depth of your teachings. Help us to see our true identity in you and to live out our faith with courage and conviction. Guide our discussions and reflections, and may your Spirit be present among us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."

Understanding the Context: (Explore aspects of the passage like place, adjacent scripture, and other elements)

1. What was the situation or teaching that prompted the disciples to ask Jesus to increase their faith?
2. How does the historical context of Jesus' time help us understand the significance of His response about faith?

Key Themes: (Faith and Identity in Christ)

3. How does the sermon suggest we understand the "mustard seed" analogy in terms of identity rather than size?
4. What does it mean to have an identity rooted in Christ, according to the sermon?

Application and Action:

5. In what ways do our worldly identities sometimes overshadow our identity in Christ?
6. How can recognizing our identity as children of God help us navigate divisions and conflicts in our lives?
7. What steps can you take this week to prioritize your identity in Christ over other identities?
8. How can you practice forgiveness and reconciliation in your relationships, as encouraged by the sermon?

Group Discussion:

If you are studying with others, discuss your reflections and insights.

1. Share a time when your identity in Christ helped you overcome a personal or relational challenge.
2. Discuss how the story of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson illustrates the power of reconciliation. How can we apply this lesson in our own communities?

Closing Prayer:

“Faithful God, we thank you for the time spent in your Word today. As we go forth, help us to carry the truth of our identity in you into every aspect of our lives. Empower us to be agents of reconciliation and love in a divided world. May our faith, no matter how small, be rooted in the certainty of who you are and who you have called us to be. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.”

Journal Prompt: Reflect on your various identities and consider how they align with your identity in Christ. Write about a specific area in your life where you feel called to live more fully into your identity as a child of God.

