

# And One More Thing: Concerning Identity

Core Group Discussion Guide

August 19, 2018

## Central Point:

What does it mean to be so consumed with Jesus that there is no other way of seeing ourselves other than as our lives identify with Him? The Bible refers to Christians with words and phrases like, “Born Again” and “New Creation” and “Christians,” which means “little Christs.” The overwhelming message of scripture is that for those of us who follow Jesus, the entirety of our lives are to be lived under the authority and direction of Him. The temptation is to allow our vision of Jesus and His kingdom to become clouded by concerns of the present realities in which we find ourselves. Sometimes we grow to love these other identities because they feel more accessible and tangible and give us something we want. This morning’s message is a challenge to have Jesus be the thing that defines our lives.

## Texts:

- Colossians 2:6-15
- Colossians 3:3-4
- Galatians 2:20

## Questions:

1. This morning, divide your group up into small groups of 3-4 people and have each group write down 2 things that stood out to them from the message and 2 questions they have about the message.
  - a. Discuss the observations and questions
2. As a group brainstorm and list all the various identities we give ourselves and others:
  - a. i.e. – Occupations – salesperson, trucker, doctor, business person, - Illnesses – ADD, Bi-Polar, Cancer Survivor, - Family – Father, Mother, Child, Grandparent. – Geography – Wayne County, Holmes County, Hiland, Central Christian, Waynedale, American, Ohioan. – Political – conservative, liberal, republican, independent, democrat. (list as many as you can think of!)
3. Which of the identities listed (outside of Christ Follower) do we most closely identify with?
  - a. Is it wrong to have those identities be part of who we are?
  - b. If not, how do we know when they become wrong?
4. Practically, what do we do to make sure that all other descriptions of ourselves come under the authority of Jesus’ description of who we are?