

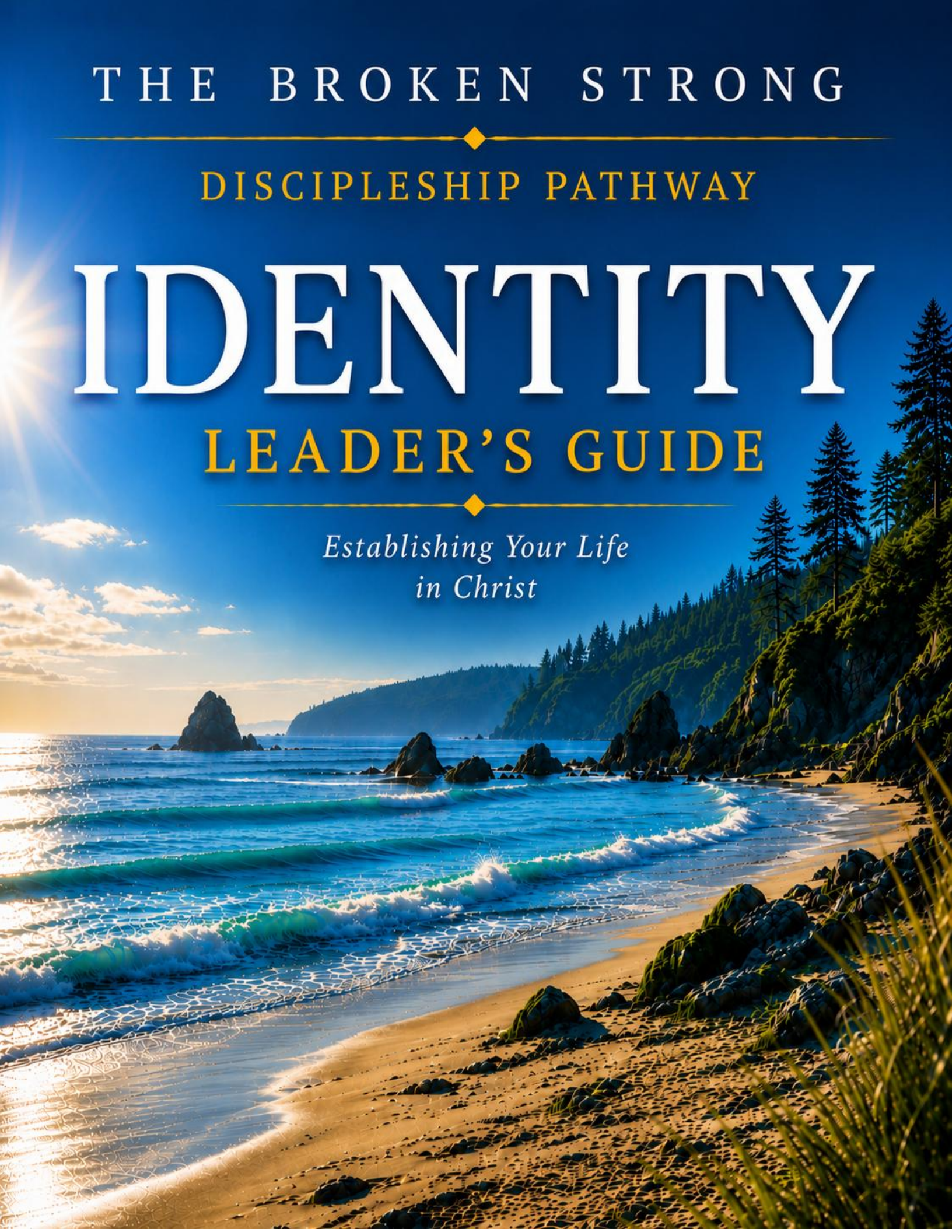
THE BROKEN STRONG

DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY

IDENTITY

LEADER'S GUIDE

*Establishing Your Life
in Christ*



THE BROKEN STRONG

The Broken Strong Discipleship Pathway

IDENTITY

Leader Guide

Pillar One · Six-Meeting Guide
28 Daily Devotionals + 3 Bonus Days

Broken Before God. Strong in Christ.

thebrokenstrong.com

How to Use This Leader Guide

This guide prepares you to lead your group through the Identity pillar of The Broken Strong Discipleship Pathway. Read each meeting's section before you arrive — not during the meeting. Your preparation is what makes the conversation go deep.

Each meeting section includes:

- **Meeting Purpose** — What this meeting is designed to accomplish.
- **Agenda** — The order the meeting flows in, start to finish.
- **Leader Prep** — What to read, pray through, or think about before you arrive.
- **Opening Question** — A warm-up that lowers defenses and gets the room talking honestly.
- **Discussion Questions** — One targeted question per devotional — pulled from the content.
- **Leader Notes** — Pastoral guidance on what to watch for and where to linger.
- **Weekly Challenge** — A concrete next step to send participants away with.
- **Closing** — How to end the meeting well — always prayer, always by name.

Four reminders that apply every week:

- **Pace the conversation, not the content.** One question answered honestly is worth more than six answered quickly. Read the room.
- **Your honesty leads the way.** People will not go somewhere you will not go first. Answer your own questions honestly before you ask them of others.
- **Guard the daily rhythm.** One devotional per day — not ahead, not behind. Follow up on this every week.
- **End on prayer.** Specific, personal, by name. Every meeting, every time.

Meeting 1 · Introduction Night

Before Day 1 Begins · Materials, Expectations, Covenant, Assessment

About This Meeting

Identity is the entry point to The Broken Strong Discipleship Pathway. Whether your group is going through Identity as a stand-alone pillar or as the first in the full four-pillar series, Meeting 1 is always a Full Introduction Night. The group is new to the program, new to each other, and new to this kind of honesty. The introduction cannot be abbreviated — the foundation it builds is what every subsequent meeting stands on.

Meeting Purpose

Tonight sets the tone for everything that follows. The goal is not to cover content — it is to build the foundation the content needs to land on. By the end of this meeting every person in the room should know what they are committing to, trust the group enough to begin honestly, and leave with Day 1 ready to read tomorrow morning.

Suggested Agenda

- **Welcome & Introductions** — Not just names. Ask each person: one word that describes where you are spiritually right now.
- **The Vision** — What The Broken Strong Discipleship Pathway is, why it exists, and what these 31 days are designed to do.
- **How It Works** — Walk through the workbook together — daily rhythm, the four journal prompts, what to bring to the meeting each week.
- **Start Assessment** — Complete together in the room. Honest, quiet, individual. Not discussed tonight — it is their starting point.
- **Covenant** — Read it together. Give people time to actually read each commitment. Sign it before they leave.
- **Assign Memory Verse** — Read Proverbs 4:23 together. This is the Week 1 verse — they'll recite it at Meeting 2.
- **Distribute Materials** — Devotional book, workbook, pen. Walk them through what goes where.
- **Close & Prayer** — Assign Day 1 — starts tomorrow morning, not tonight. Pray over each person by name.

Memory Verse

Assign This Week

“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.”

— Proverbs 4:23

Leader Prep

- Read through the full Introduction Night section of the workbook before tonight so you can walk the group through it naturally.
- Have all materials ready to distribute — devotional books, workbooks, pens — before people arrive.
- Know each person's name before they walk in. If this is a new group, learn them.
- Pray through the group by name before you arrive. You are not just facilitating a program — you are opening a space where God is going to do real work.
- Set up the room so it feels intentional. Chairs in a circle, not rows. It signals this is a conversation, not a lecture.

Opening Question

If you could use one word to describe where you are spiritually right now — not where you want to be, not where you think you should be, but where you actually are — what would that word be?

Give everyone in the room a chance to answer. Write down every word. These answers tell you a great deal about what the next six weeks will surface. You may want to return to them at Meeting 6.

Walking Through the Covenant

Do not rush the covenant. Read each section aloud together. Ask if there are any commitments that feel unclear or that someone wants to talk through before signing. The covenant is not a formality — it is the agreement that makes honest community possible.

Two commitments worth spending extra time on:

Confidentiality. What is said in this group stays in this group. Say it clearly. Say it again. It is the foundation of everything that follows.

The daily rhythm. One devotional per day. Not ahead. Not behind. This is not a suggestion — it is what makes the group conversation work each week. Everyone is in the same place in the material.

The Start Assessment

The assessment is completed individually and quietly. It is not discussed tonight. Tell the group:

“There are no right answers. The only wrong answer is one that isn't true. This is between you and God. You will complete the same assessment after Day 31, and the comparison is for you — not for the group.”

Give them enough time. Do not hurry. The questions are designed to surface things quietly — let them.

Distributing Materials

When you hand someone their devotional book and workbook, say something like:

“The devotional book is yours to keep. Read it every morning — one day at a time. The workbook is where you do the work. Bring it to every meeting.”

Briefly walk through the workbook structure — where the daily journal pages are, how the weekly accountability page works, and where they will find the memory verse for Week 1.

Closing

Before you pray, give the group the two non-negotiables one more time:

Don't read ahead. The material is sequenced intentionally.

Don't fall behind. One day at a time keeps everyone in the same conversation.

Then pray — by name, for what was shared in that opening word, for what God is going to do in each person over the next 31 days. Make the prayer specific enough that they know you actually heard them tonight.

Meeting 2 · Who Am I, Really?

Days 1–7 · Identifying the Symptoms & Recognizing the Root

Meeting Purpose

This week's material surfaced how approval, comparison, hiding, performing, success, and failure have all been functioning as identity foundations — and how every one of them fails. The goal tonight is not solutions. It is honest awareness. Help people name what God put His finger on this week.

Suggested Agenda

- **Open** — Brief centering.
- **Accountability Check** — Did everyone complete all 7 days? Recite this week's memory verse.
- **Opening Question** — Warm the room before the deeper questions.
- **Discussion** — Work through the discussion questions. Don't rush. Follow what surfaces.
- **Weekly Challenge** — Give it clearly. Ask them to write it in their workbook.
- **Assign Memory Verse** — Read 2 Corinthians 5:17 together — next week's verse.
- **Close & Prayer** — By name. For what was shared.

Memory Verse

Recite This Week

“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.”

— **Proverbs 4:23**

Assign Next Week

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

— **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Leader Prep

- Read Days 1–7 again before this meeting. Mark what hit you personally — that is likely what will hit others.
- Review each person's accountability card if they've shared it. Know who struggled to keep the daily rhythm.

- Be ready to recite this week's memory verse yourself.
- The opening question this week should feel low-stakes. The room is still new. Don't push too hard too fast.

Opening Question

What's one thing from this first week's reading that surprised you, convicted you, or that you couldn't stop thinking about?

Discussion Questions

Day 1 — Created Before You Performed

Be honest: Is your sense of worth more connected to how you're performing right now or to the fact that you were created in God's image? What would have to change if that truth actually settled in?

Day 2 — When Approval Becomes Oxygen

Where do you find yourself scanning the room for a reaction — at work, at home, even at church? What does that reveal about where your identity is anchored?

Days 3 & 4 — Driven or Directed / Hiding and Performing

Which tendency shows up more in your life — comparing yourself to others or hiding your real self? What does that pattern protect you from having to face?

Day 5 — When Success Becomes Identity

What's your “barn”? What achievement or status marker would shake you if it disappeared tomorrow?

Day 6 — When Failure Feels Final

Has a past failure quietly become part of how you define yourself? What would it mean to believe Romans 8:1 about that specific thing?

Day 7 — The Root Beneath the Symptoms

Looking at the week as a whole, what surprised you most about where your identity has been resting? What pattern did God put His finger on?

Leader Notes

Day 7 is the hinge of this week. Don't rush past it. This is where people can name the pattern without yet having the solution — and that is exactly right. Awareness is the first movement toward freedom. Let the weight of that land before you close.

The room is still new. Some people will be guarded. That is okay. Don't push for depth that hasn't been earned yet — but do model it yourself. Your honest answer to one of these questions opens more doors than any technique.

Watch for the person who is very articulate and very general. Articulate answers that stay abstract are often the most defended ones. A gentle “can you give me a specific example?” is the right move.

Weekly Challenge

This week, when you notice yourself seeking approval, comparing, hiding, or performing — just name it. Don't fix it yet. Just say it honestly to God. Awareness is where freedom begins.

Closing

Pray specifically for each person by name. Ask God to give them eyes to see what He's already seen in them this week. If someone shared something specific — a fear, a failure, a pattern — pray into that directly.

Meeting 3 · What God Says About You

Days 8–14 · The Biblical Foundation for Identity in Christ

Meeting Purpose

Week 1 identified the problem. Week 2 introduces the solution — not as self-help or positive thinking, but as spiritual reality. The goal tonight is to help people move these truths from theological knowledge into personal belief. Not “I know God invited me” but “I believe God invited me — and here is where I still don't.”

Suggested Agenda

- **Open** — Brief centering.
- **Accountability Check** — Daily rhythm check. Recite this week's memory verse.
- **Opening Question**
- **Discussion**
- **Weekly Challenge**
- **Assign Memory Verse** — Read Galatians 2:20 together — next week's verse.
- **Close & Prayer**

Memory Verse

Recite This Week

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

— **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Assign Next Week

“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

— **Galatians 2:20**

Leader Prep

- These are theological devotionals. Some people will feel confident discussing doctrine. Keep pulling it personal — the goal is not theological accuracy but personal belief.

- Day 12 (Beloved) tends to surface significant emotion. Be ready for that. Don't fix it or rush past it.
- Know this week's memory verse well enough to speak to why it matters.
- Ask yourself before you arrive: which of these truths do I find hardest to actually believe — not just know? Answer that honestly tonight.

Opening Question

Which truth from this week's reading was hardest for you to actually believe — not just know?

Discussion Questions

Day 8 — Not an Accident, Invited by Grace

Do you functionally live like God accepts you through Christ, or like you're constantly re-auditioning for His approval? What would it look like to live from belonging rather than toward it?

Day 9 — Accepted, Not Performing

The devotional says you're not “balancing nervously at the edge of acceptance — you are standing in grace.” Does that feel true in daily life? Where does it not?

Day 10 — Redeemed, Not Defined by the Past

What part of your past still speaks loudest — and how does the truth of redemption directly answer it?

Day 11 — Sealed, Not Shaken

If your belonging to God is sealed by the Spirit and not sustained by your own strength, how does that change the way you approach weak moments or spiritual dry spells?

Day 12 — Beloved, Not Barely Tolerated

Be honest: Do you think of God as one who delights in you or as one who merely tolerates you? Where did that picture come from — and is it biblical?

Days 13–14 — A New Name / Anchored

Day 13 says the old identity no longer holds authority — yet many of us still speak of ourselves in old-identity language. What name or label do you need to stop giving yourself?

Leader Notes

Don't let this become a theology class. Every time the conversation goes abstract, bring it back: “That's true — where does that land personally for you?” The goal is belief, not explanation.

Day 12 (Beloved) is where the group may go quiet in a different way than usual — not because they're guarded but because the question actually hits. Give it room. Don't fill the silence.

By now the group has been together for two weeks. People should be opening up more. If someone is still very surface-level, consider a gentle one-on-one conversation after the meeting — not a confrontation, just a check-in.

Weekly Challenge

Choose one truth from this week — invited, justified, redeemed, sealed, beloved, new creature, anchored — and write it on a card. Put it somewhere you'll see it daily. Read it out loud each morning. Let it argue back at the old voices.

Closing

Ask each person to share the one truth that most needs to settle into their heart. Pray those specific truths over them by name.

Meeting 4 · The Doorway & The New Life

Days 15–21 · Salvation, Regeneration, and the Indwelling Spirit

Meeting Purpose

This week moves into how identity in Christ is actually entered and sustained — through salvation, new birth, cleansing, adoption, and the indwelling Spirit. The goal tonight is to help people understand not just what happened at salvation but what it means for how they live now. Two of the most powerful truths in the pillar are here: crucified with Christ, and dead to sin.

Suggested Agenda

- **Open** — Brief centering.
- **Accountability Check** — Daily rhythm. Recite this week's memory verse. Follow up on last week's challenge.
- **Opening Question**
- **Discussion**
- **Weekly Challenge**
- **Assign Memory Verse** — Read Ephesians 4:1 together — next week's verse.
- **Close & Prayer**

Memory Verse

Recite This Week

“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

— **Galatians 2:20**

Assign Next Week

“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.”

— **Ephesians 4:1**

Leader Prep

- Day 15 (The Doorway of Salvation) may surface someone who is uncertain about their own salvation. Prepare for this. It is a gift when it happens — not a disruption. Have a plan for how to follow up privately after the meeting.

- Days 19–21 (Orphan to Heir, Crucified With Christ, Dead to Sin) are among the most practically powerful in the entire pillar. Don't let the discussion get stuck on Days 15–16 and miss these.
- This week's memory verse is the longest in the series. Be patient with people — it takes time. The reward is worth it.
- Ask yourself: where am I still fighting sin as though it still owns me rather than as one who is dead to it and alive to God?

Opening Question

Days 15–16 deal with salvation and cleansing. How has your understanding of what salvation actually accomplished shifted as you've gone through this material?

Discussion Questions

Days 15–16 — The Doorway / Washed by the Blood

The devotional says carrying guilt Christ has already cleansed is “living beneath the provision of the cross.” Is there something specific you've been carrying that you need to set down? What would it mean to believe you are actually clean?

Day 17 — Born Again, Made Alive

Where in your life have you been trying to manage behavior without accessing spiritual life — fixing the fruit while the root stays the same?

Day 18 — The Indwelling Presence

If you genuinely lived with the awareness that the Spirit of God dwells within you, what would change about how you face temptation, difficulty, or loneliness?

Day 19 — From Orphan to Heir

Orphan thinking expects abandonment and performs for survival. Do you recognize that pattern? What triggers it most? How does adoption language in Romans 8 directly answer it?

Day 20 — Crucified With Christ

“Identity in Christ is not addition — it is exchange.” What part of the old self-constructed identity are you most reluctant to surrender? Name it.

Day 21 — Dead to Sin, Alive unto God

Romans 6 says to “reckon” — count it as true — that you are dead to sin. How does your posture toward sin change when you fight from belonging rather than toward it?

Leader Notes

Day 15 may surface someone who is genuinely uncertain about their salvation. Do not skip past it or generalize it. Receive it quietly, acknowledge it, and arrange to speak with them privately after the meeting. This is one of the most important moments that can happen in this group.

Day 19 (Orphan to Heir) tends to hit men and women differently but hit both hard. Orphan thinking — expecting abandonment, performing for survival, never feeling secure — is remarkably common. Give it room. The contrast with adoption language is one of the most freeing things in this entire pillar.

Days 20–21 together make a powerful close to the week. Don't separate them if you can help it. The crucifixion of the old self (Day 20) and the reckoning of the new (Day 21) are two sides of the same truth.

Weekly Challenge

Pick one area where sin has felt like it still owns you. Write out Romans 6:11 with your name in it: “[Name] reckons himself dead to sin and alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Pray it every day this week.

Closing

Let people pray for each other this week — not just the leader praying over the group. Pair people up or go around the room. Let them pray specifically into what was shared tonight.

Meeting 5 · How Identity Changes How You Live

Days 22–28 · Walking Worthy, Confidence, Humility, Freedom, and Identity Settled

Meeting Purpose

The material shifts this week from who you are to how you live. Identity is no longer being established — it is now being applied. The goal tonight is to help people see the practical gap between what they believe and how they actually conduct their daily life, and to close that gap by one specific step.

Suggested Agenda

- **Open** — Brief centering.
- **Accountability Check** — Daily rhythm. Recite this week's memory verse. Last week's challenge follow-up.
- **Opening Question**
- **Discussion**
- **Weekly Challenge**
- **Assign Memory Verse** — Read Colossians 3:3 together — for Days 28–31, closing out the pillar.
- **Close & Prayer**

Memory Verse

Recite This Week

“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.”

— **Ephesians 4:1**

Assign Next Week

“For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.”

— **Colossians 3:3**

Leader Prep

- Day 25 (Comparison) revisits Week 2's content but now with a solution in view. This is a good place to ask the group what is actually different after four weeks — not just what they know, but what has changed.
- Day 26 (Stable in the Storm) is highly personal. People will have real storms. Give them room to share one — not a theoretical difficulty but an actual season they have walked through.

- Before this meeting, take stock of each person in the group. Who has been growing visibly? Who has been quiet? Who do you need to check in with before or after tonight?
- Think about the weekly challenge before you give it. Make it specific enough that you could ask them about it next week and get a concrete answer.

Opening Question

Before this material, did you think of humility and confidence as opposites? How has that shifted?

Discussion Questions

Day 22 — Living Worthy of Who You Are

The devotional says identity precedes behavior — calling comes first, then conduct. Where is the gap widest between who you know yourself to be in Christ and how you're actually living?

Day 23 — Confidence Without Arrogance

Two bad options: shrinking inward with fear, or overcompensating with pride. Which has been your default? What does quiet, Christ-rooted confidence look like in your situation specifically?

Day 24 — Humility Without Shame

Humility “simply agrees with God.” It doesn't inflate and doesn't diminish. Where have you mistaken shame for humility, or justified pride as confidence?

Day 25 — Freedom From Comparison

Who's the person or standard you most often measure yourself against? What does it cost you to keep using that measuring stick?

Day 26 — Stable in the Storm

In the last hard season you walked through — what did you actually run to for stability? What does that reveal?

Day 27 — Identity Lived Out Loud

What would it look like for your life to be a quiet testimony — not because you're performing, but because Christ is genuinely shaping you?

Day 28 — Identity Settled

Paul says your life is hid with Christ in God. Hidden means protected and secure — not invisible or inactive. What does a life lived from that kind of security look like practically, for you, in the next 30 days?

Leader Notes

Day 25 is worth extra time if the group has been wrestling with comparison. This is the week where you can ask: “What is actually different from Week 1 to now?” Don't assume growth — ask for it specifically.

Day 26 (Stable in the Storm) often opens conversations about specific hard seasons people are in right now or have recently come through. This is some of the best pastoral territory in the whole pillar. Don't move past it quickly.

Day 28 (Identity Settled) closes the four main weeks on exactly the right note — identity is not something you invent, it is something you receive. Don't rush this. Let the group sit with Colossians 3:3 before you move to the challenge.

Coming into the final meeting — begin praying now for each person by name. Ask God what He has done in them over these five weeks. You will want to speak specifically to that in Meeting 6.

Weekly Challenge

Write out your answer to the question: “Who am I?” — but answer it using only what Scripture says about you. Keep it. Return to it when the old voices come back. This is the challenge that closes the four core weeks of Identity.

Closing

Take a moment tonight to look back at where each person started — the word they gave on Introduction Night. Acknowledge what God has done over these four weeks. Pray forward into Meeting 6.

Meeting 6 · Celebration

Days 29–31 (Bonus Days) · Testimony & Commissioning

Meeting Purpose

This meeting is a celebration. Groups close out in different ways, so treat the format loosely rather than as a fixed script — the constants are testimony and commissioning. Consider a different setting than your usual meeting spot — someone's home, a restaurant, wherever fits your group — to mark this as a distinct night of celebration rather than just another meeting. The three bonus days are not worked through day by day; let what surfaced in Days 29–31 come out naturally as people share. People should leave having heard what God has done in them and in each other, settled in who they are in Christ.

Suggested Agenda

- **Open** — Read Colossians 3:3 together. Let it sit.
- **Accountability Check** — Final daily rhythm check. Recite this week's memory verse. Last challenge follow-up.
- **Opening Question**
- **Comments & Testimony — Days 29–31** — Let the bonus days surface through open sharing. Round the room.
- **Group Feedback** — What worked, what was hard, what was missing.
- **Close & Prayer** — Commissioning prayer. By name. For what was shared.

Memory Verse

Recite This Week

“For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.”

— Colossians 3:3

Leader Prep

- Go back to Introduction Night. What word did each person give? How has that word changed? Be ready to speak to that for each person in the room.
- Read Days 29–31 carefully. Days 29 and 30 are summary days — they consolidate everything. Day 31 (Live From It) is a challenge, not a reflection. Make sure that distinction lands.
- Prepare something personal to share tonight — one truth from these six weeks that changed something in you. Go first. Always.

- This is a celebration. Let it feel like one. The work was real. The growth is real. Acknowledge it.
- If your group can pull it off, meet somewhere other than the usual room tonight — a home, a restaurant, wherever fits. A different setting signals that this is a celebration, not just the next meeting.
- Remind people to complete the End Assessment in the back of their workbook and compare it to their Start Assessment. This is personal, not group discussion — no meeting time is needed for it.

Opening Question

Day 28 says identity in Christ is not something you invent — it is something you receive. Looking back over the full 31 days, where did that land most deeply for you personally?

Prompts for Testimony — Days 29–31 (Bonus Days)

These are not a day-by-day discussion to work through. Let them surface naturally as people share. Use a prompt only if the room needs a nudge.

Day 29 — From Unaware to Anchored

What specific false belief about your identity has been corrected by this series? Don't generalize — name the lie and name the truth that replaced it.

Day 30 — Settled Enough to Grow

The distinction is knowing God loves you vs. believing it deeply. Which best describes where you are right now? What would it take to move from knowing to believing?

Day 31 — Live From It

James says the person who hears and doesn't act is like someone who looks in a mirror and forgets what they saw. What is one specific way you will intentionally live from your identity in Christ?

Round the Room

Go around the room. Every person speaks one truth — specifically, something they've seen God do in the person to their left over these six weeks. Then that person shares their own answer to the question: What is one truth that changed something for me during Identity?

This is one of the most powerful moments of the entire pillar if you let it run. Don't cut it short. People need to hear what others have seen in them.

Closing

Pray a commissioning prayer — not a closing prayer, a sending prayer. Pray for each person by name. Speak to what you have watched God do in them over these six weeks. Acknowledge the courage it took to be honest, and the faithfulness of God to each person in the room. Then send them forward — settled and secure in who they are in Christ.

If you are presenting completion certificates, do so now — call each person by name, speak one thing you observed God do in them, and hand it to them personally.

“For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.” — Colossians 3:3

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