So what?

HUMBLE | **DIGNITY**

Created, totally dependent on God | BUT…made in the image of the King!

- Reassurance

- Comfort

Questions for discussion:

What difference does having an unchanging identity of humble dignity make:

- *When you face criticism or feel like you've failed?*
- *When you receive praise or feel like you've done something well?*
- *When your life circumstances change?*
- *Day to day?*

Recommended Books

"Mirror, Mirror" – *Graham Beynon*

"Identity Theft" – *Melissa Kruger, et al.*

IDENTITY IN CHRIST

St Andrew's Women's Breakfast, Saturday 14th November

Introduction

How would you describe yourself? What things make up your identity?

Human Identity

Given value and status by God

God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. *(Genesis 1:27)*

You have made [humankind] a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honour. *(Psalm 8:5)*

Beautifully designed and carefully created by God

You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. *(Psalm 139:13–14)*

Known and loved by God

Even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. *(Matthew 10:30)*

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. *(John 3:16)*

Our Identity in Christ

Because of Jesus…

…I am precious, treasured, a delight to my Heavenly Father
(Isaiah 43:4, 1 Peter 2:9, Zephaniah 3:17, Romans 8:38–39)

…I am chosen, adopted as a child of God, a co–heir with Christ
(John 15:16, Ephesians 1:5, Romans 8:17, 2 Timothy 2:12)

…I am forgiven, redeemed, restored, a new creation, empowered
(1 John 1:9, Psalm 103:12, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 2 Timothy 1:7, Titus 2:12)

…I am safe, protected, strong, never alone
(Psalm 27:1, Isaiah 40:31, John 16:33, Romans 8:28, Matthew 28:20, Revelation 21:4)

…I have a purpose and a valued part to play
(1 Corinthians 12:12–14, Jeremiah 29:11, Ephesians 2:10)

…I am blessed
(Ephesians 1:3, Matthew 7:11)

…I have been set free
(John 8:36, Romans 8:1–2; Galatians 5:1)

Questions for discussion:

- *What do you think of this list of statements?*
- *Which of them are the most special to you?*
- *Are there any that surprise you or that you struggle to believe? (If so, why do you think that is?)*

Identity Theft

"Our three enemies – the world, the flesh and the devil – all seek to discourage and dishearten us from living in the fulness of who we are in Christ…It's a battle…We need a biblical understanding of identity to guard our hearts and minds as we seek to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord."
Melissa Kruger

The World

Think through on your own: *Are there areas where you might be trying too hard to meet the world's standards of worth?*

The Flesh

Think through on your own: *Are there times when you're tempted to make unhelpful comparisons between yourself and other people?*

The Devil

Think through on your own: *Can you identify any lies that you've got into the habit of believing about yourself?*