

Reading Plan

November 2-15

By: Angela Edwards

Throughout motherhood we are called by many different names: Mama, Mommy, Mom, and sometimes Mother (this one often is accompanied by an eye-roll). In addition to “mother,” several other things make up our identity - we are wives, daughters, sisters, friends, co-workers... the list is really rather endless. We are all different - a quick look at our Enneagram type, spiritual gifts, or results from any other personality-type test will confirm that. God loves us in all our uniqueness! After all, He created us.

As Christians, there is one aspect we can ALL claim as part of our identity. We are children of God. 1 John 3:1a says, “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” We need to see ourselves as He sees us. Who we are in Him is shown through all of the things we talked about in our classes at MomLife - all the other things that make up our identities.

Sarah Walton writes in a blog post called “Your Identity in Christ Changes Things:”

We often also compare ourselves to the gifts and blessings of others. We are all created with the purpose of glorifying God in the unique ways He has created us. One person is filled with creativity while another glorifies God with a beautiful voice. One person glorifies God as a CEO while another glorifies Him by doing custodial work in the church. One person glorifies God in the way they seek to raise their family while another glorifies Him in the way they use their singleness to serve Him.

We must seek to glorify Christ in our gifts and not get lost in the joy-sucking pursuit of trying to be something God never created us to be. Don't miss out on the blessing of serving Christ where you are with what He has chosen for you.

Take a moment to journal some of your thoughts from yesterday's MomLife Gathering:



Sarah also says, “Praise God that He loves us enough to take our broken, rebellious hearts and, because of the sacrifice of His Son, offer us a new identity in Christ. Let’s not settle for anything less.”

This Reading Plan will be different. You will have a list of verses concerning your identity in Christ. Each day, choose a passage (or passages) to read and then choose a way to process those verses. Use one or more of the suggestions below, or if you already have a favorite way to spend time in Scripture, do that. Grab your own journal, get some notebook paper to include in your binder along with these pages, or simply use these prompts for quiet thought and reflection. And for those who like checking off boxes, you can use the included chart to keep up with what you are reading.

- Personalize the passage. Put your name in the passage, use personal pronouns (I, me, and my). Ex. “See what kind of love the Father has given to me, that I should be called a child of God...”
- Using an app or website, compare different translations of the passage.
- Write out the verse using colorful pens, markers, or pencils (or crayons). Doodle around them. Draw out what may come to mind when you read the Scripture. Be as elaborate or simple as you want to be.
- Pray the Scripture. Thank God for your identity in Him. Ask God to guide you during your reading, ask what He wants you to understand or know. Read it several times.
- Write the Scripture on an index card or sticky note. Put it somewhere you will see throughout the day. Read it out loud as you pass by.
- Read the verses surrounding the verse to find context if needed.

I am...

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alive in Christ: Ephesians 2:4-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> A sweet aroma: 2 Corinthians 2:15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> God’s workmanship: Ephesians 2:10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Whole: Colossians 2:10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A new creation: 2 Corinthians 5:17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Never Alone: Deuteronomy 31:8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A child of God: 1 John 3:1-2, John 1:12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Bold: 2 Corinthians 3:12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A co-heir with Christ: Romans 8:15-17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Redeemed: Colossians 1:13-14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chosen: Ephesians 1:4 & 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> Set free: Romans 8:1-2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Worth dying for: Romans 8:8 | <input type="checkbox"/> A citizen of Heaven: Philippians 3:20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Made in God’s image: Genesis 1:27 | <input type="checkbox"/> God’s temple: 1 Corinthians 3:16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forgiven: 1 John 1:9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Loved: 1 John 4:19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free: John 8:31-32 & 36 | <input type="checkbox"/> Valuable: Luke 12:6-7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heir of God: Galatians 4:7 | <input type="checkbox"/> Precious: Isaiah 43:4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rejoiced over: Zephaniah 3:17 | <input type="checkbox"/> A branch of the True Vine: John 15:1-5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wonderfully made: Psalm 139:14 | <input type="checkbox"/> Justified: Romans 5:1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A friend of Christ: John 15:15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Light: Ephesians 5:8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Washed clean: Isaiah 1:18 | |

“My Identity is in Christ, not in my sin, my past, my mistakes or bad decisions. Not in myself, not in what people say that I am. Not in what I think of myself. My identity is in who Christ says I am. I am enough because HE is ENOUGH.” –Unknown

Date	Verse(s)	Date	Verse(s)
Friday Nov 2		Friday Nov 9	
Saturday Nov 3		Saturday Nov 10	
Sunday Nov 4		Sunday Nov 11	
Monday Nov 5		Monday Nov 12	
Tuesday Nov 6		Tuesday Nov 13	
Wednesday Nov 7		Wednesday Nov 14	
Thursday Nov 8		Thursday Nov 15	

Use this month's memory verse in place of one the identity verses on Saturdays or Sundays. Feel free to use whatever technique works best for you to practice memorizing it.

“And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.”

Colossians 3:14 (ESV)

What would it look like to PUT ON LOVE for yourself as God has loved you?

With your kids and/or spouse:

- (1) Share the Scriptures you read with your family and say a simple prayer together.
- (2) Be intentional DAILY to help to build your child's and spouse's confidence and self-image through things like:
 - Acknowledge and verbalize one way you have seen your child's or spouse's uniqueness shine today. Remind them that they are enough and good and oh so loved.
 - Praise them for things they do well, times they show kindness and say, "Thank you." Be specific with what you appreciate about them.
 - Share lots of hugs.
 - Write a little note to leave in their lunch, backpack, bathroom mirror or car to tell them what you think about them and how much you love them.
 - Tell them and show them that you simply like being around them.
 - Take at least 15-30 minutes per day to fully engage - put down all devices and distractions to listen to a story, read a book, play a game or pretend.
 - Laugh and make jokes together.
 - Have one night a week where you cook together and sit around the table together for a meal.
 - Take turns teaching each other something and praise one another's efforts.
 - Go get ice cream or have hot cider... Just because.
 - After bath/shower/teeth brushing, ask your child to look into the mirror. Have them tell you 3 things they love about themselves. You do it as well! Remind them that God created ALL of them and He loves every part of us! Even the parts we might not like. To wrap up this time, have your child say a prayer of thanks - thanking God for their face and body, their unique personalities, their talents... the way God created them to be.