

# “Who am I?”

We are offering a series of reflections for individuals and churches who may be finding it difficult to provide midweek prayer and shared learning from Scripture. You can use these by watching the YouTube video, reading the relevant Bible passage and then reflecting on the questions below. To help make this a shared activity, you are encouraged to reflect on this together with friends using an online conference package, or simply arrange with a friend for them to watch it too. Then ring each other up, share what your thoughts and responses and then pray for one another, and pray together for our world.

**Read 1 Peter 1:1-2**

**Watch the YouTube video:** <https://youtu.be/cx7mtaljpAc>

Now spend some time reflecting on the four “identities” that are revealed through this introduction. The identity of the writer from “Simon the Fisherman” to “Peter the Apostle”; the identity of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit; the immediate identity of the recipients “scattered exiles” and their identity in Christ “Chosen, sanctified and saved”. Use this framework to reflect on your own identity and to root your identity in the God we serve - not the circumstances we face:

**Who has God called me to be?** What is the place that God has called you to fulfil within the Body of Christ? Have recent circumstances caused you to lose some of that sense of calling that needs to be reclaimed? Have those changes caused you to discover a new or different sense of calling? As you reflect on the writer’s journey from Simon the Fisherman to Peter the Apostle – what is the equivalent for you? Where are you on that journey?

**What does it mean to be “chosen by God’s foreknowledge?”** See yourself from this perspective on time and space – our place and our identity belongs in a timeframe that is so much bigger than our immediate circumstances. God has chosen as his people those who choose to follow Jesus. Remind yourself that whatever situation you are currently in – you are, you have been and you always will be included in God’s people. How does this alter your perspective?

**How am I being sanctified by the Holy Spirit?** Where is God present and at work in your life? How are you reflecting God’s presence? How is God at work in you within current circumstances? How can you be more open to the Holy Spirit working within you? How are you being shaped more into the likeness of Christ?

**What does it mean for me to be “Obedient to Christ?”** Although you may be feeling fragile, how can you re-embrace the security of your salvation? How are you living in loving obedience to Christ? What does it mean for you to live as a follower of Jesus in the here and now?

## PRAYER

Ever Present God, in the midst of a world that is overrun with fear and uncertainty, help me to resist the narratives that it seeks to impose and to root my identity in you. Remind me again that you are my Creator and your purposes extend beyond any event or situation that confronts me this day. Open my heart to the presence of your Spirit that you may shape and sanctify me in every circumstance. Hold me fast in the love that is mine through Jesus as I seek to humbly follow wherever you might lead. Never let me forget that wherever I am and however others may seek to define me – above anything else, I am yours.. AMEN