

WhyDoBe Series
Identity
Newport News Campus
10/26/19

Opening

-tell story of painters thinking I was the maintenance man...

-tell story of name on my shirt...

-When we get home tonight and we take off these costumes, are we still wearing a mask? And it could be that some of us have been wearing that mask for so long, we don't even know who we are anymore?

Introduction

-What are some reasons people pretend to be someone they are not?

- acceptance
- rejection
- past hurts
- shame
- personal gain

-Psalm 139:14-18

-Are you going to be a mask wearer or an image bearer?

-a mask is any sense of self that we embrace that obstructs who God created us to be.

-Matthew 4:1-4

- 1 John 2:16
- over identifying with the human experience -- mask
- a familiar voice of influence -- mask maker (vs. Identity Creator)

-We cannot truly know ourselves unless we first know God!

Identity Principles

1.) **Your true identity begins with God's sovereignty.**

- Resist envy!!!!
- Personality
- Natural abilities
- Heart desires
- Life experiences
- Spiritual Gifts

(SHAPE BY ERIK REES)

2.) **Your true identity will never be in conflict with God's morality.**

- Teens
- Marriage
- Sexual orientation
- Gender identification

(SHARE LINK TO BLOG: <https://www.letspraxis.com/blog-society/2015/02/lgbtqi-part-one.html>)

(This final posting in the series is dealing with the complex question of how should Christians respond to the fact that children are born with chromosomal and genetic abnormalities that result in problems with hormones, genital formation, and puberty. Much of my reading came from various sources, some of which were: [National Library of Medicine & National Institute of Health](#) and [Genetics Home Reference](#).)

3.) **Your true identity connects you to God's history.** (Spielberg movie)

-Abraham to David, David to Babylonian Exile, Babylonian Exile to Jesus...14 generations between each... (Matthew 1:1-16)

-Exclusions: rejected God' morality and sovereignty...

-Included: imperfect people who embraced a God ordained identity

-are you just part of the lineage or are you part of the history!

-Our God given identity makes us both a person and a participant in God's history...to reveal Himself to a world here so we can be with Him in eternity there!

(Vannessa Coming to Close)

-City Life Church is a mask free zone! You're family from the first hello...

-His workmanship that leads to our identity produces the diversity that creates Biblical unity! And as Pastor Justin preached last weekend and I'll be addressing in couple weeks...Biblical unity is a key part of God's plan to reveal Himself to the world...let's be a part of that plan!