Talk 2 How does our identity in Christ transform our lives?

1Peter 1:13-2:3

1¹³Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." ¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. ²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴ For, "All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.

2 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. ² Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

A New Purpose

A New Priority

A New People

Think about and discuss...

7alk 2

- 1: What might someone think your purpose in life was from how you spend your time, money etc?
- 2: If you were "alert and fully sober" and had "set your hope" (v13) on your glorious future in Christ how would your life change? The way you spend your time, your prayer life (4:7), your attitude to temptation (5:8-9)?
- 3: During a normal hour, day, week, what opportunities might you have to serve Jesus (and other in his name) rather than yourself?
- 4: What aspects of your identity are most important to you? Your gender, work, family role, dis/ability, education, gifts, faith...etc What difference does it make to be a new person in Christ with an eternal future?
- 5: How does being part of a new people, all with an eternal future with Christ, change your attitude to your church family and individuals within it?