

Your Identity in Christ I am a Saint!

The truest thing about you is not what you think, feel or say about yourself.
The truest thing about you is not what other people think, feel or say about you.
The truest thing about you is what the Bible says about you.

Throughout your lifetime, you will hear a lot of messages about yourself. Some of those messages come from outside of you – people, the culture in general and even the devil. Some of those messages come from within you – your feelings and perceptions about what’s going on around you. All of these messages serve to form the ongoing conversation you are having with yourself.

You can’t believe everything you think! Jesus told us to love God with our heart, soul and mind. Part of loving God with your mind is thinking Biblically about yourself.

Question to Consider: Do you have a Biblically accurate understanding of yourself?

The Apostle Paul wrote 13 letters that are in the NT. His favorite way of identifying his readers was to call them saints. He uses the word, saints, about 40 times. Paul didn’t use the word Christian or Christians to refer to Christians. He preferred the word saints. For example:

“To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Philippi...”

The word “saint” always appears in its plural form, never singular. One of the great truths of the gospel is you are not saved alone. To be a saint is to belong to God and to belong to God’s people.

If you are a Christian, you are a saint. At the moment of your salvation, sainthood was conferred upon you. No matter your age or gender or knowledge of the Bible. You could have lived a long life far from God but when you received Jesus, your eternal status was changed.

Our mission statement describes disciples as people who ***“are being changed by the gospel.”*** That’s the target; not just Church attendance. Saints grow. Saints live changed lives. Saints mature in Christ.

Our goal for every member of Hope CC is life-transformation through Jesus.

“Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purposes.” Phil 2:13

God gives you both the desire and the ability to be a saint.

AND

God gives you both the desire and the ability to live a saintly life.

For your entire life, you get to enjoy growing as a Christian.

For your entire life, you are called a saint AND you should notice that you are becoming more saintly.

Being called a saint is your birthright.

Living a saintly life is your responsibility.

Saint is your identity and it is your calling.

Even if you don’t feel like a saint...as a Christian, this is who you are.