



“Identity Through Darkness”

SESSION TWO

Bridging the Context

When we ground our identity in something other than God, we are grounding it in something insecure. We fear losing what we tied our identity to -- whether that is a high GPA, a relationship, our reputation, or something else. Often, this fear leads us to destructive behaviors. We might let our studies crowd out our love for God, or let a fear of losing a boyfriend or girlfriend lead us to jealous or unwise acts. And these behaviors ultimately destroy our relationships and ourselves, leaving us in a dark place. Whatever leads us to this dark place -- broken relationships, destroyed reputations, broken dreams -- we can have confidence that God meets us in the midst of the darkness and redeems it.

Fill in the Blank

- God does some of His best work in the _____.
- God included the women in Jesus’s genealogy to testify to the _____ of Jesus.
- God included the women in Jesus’s genealogy to testify to His _____.
- God included the women in Jesus’s genealogy to testify to His sovereign _____.

Questions

1. Jesus was born into a world of darkness. What's the message for you in this truth?
2. When have you seen God work in the dark?
3. What behaviors do college students around you tend to fall into in order to protect their identities?
4. Does Jesus’s lineage surprise you? How does knowing Jesus’s human family history change or shape your view of who He is?
5. Is there a sin or mistake that Christians often assume is too “dark” for Jesus to redeem? Where does that belief come from? How has that belief affected your life and witness?