



SERIES: In View Of God's Mercies

Week 3: The Mercy of A New Identity	
<p>Connect</p>  <p>5 – 10 min</p>	<p><i>Just for fun:</i> Some thing has happened. You have to go into witness protection and you need a new name. Here's what it will be: <u>First name:</u> Your middle name spelled backwards. (if you don't have one use "none" or "blank") <u>Middle name:</u> Your grandmother or grandfather's first name <u>Last name:</u> The street you lived on when you were born.</p> <p>Share it with us before you get taken away and we can't find you!</p>
<p>Gratitude</p>  <p>10 – 15 min</p>	<p>What is a specific freedom you are grateful to be experiencing? (This could be a physical, emotional, or spiritual freedom.)</p> <p>As you listen to the song "No Longer Slaves" (Bethel Music, radio version) give thanks for the unique freedom being a child of God offers you. Quietly hand over any fears or worries as you let the lyrics wash over you and the Spirit minister to you. (The radio version is 4 mins long, most others are over 6mins. Find it at youtu.be/PQqkXg-C9jo or on Spotify or similar)</p> <p><i>Other song suggestions:</i> This is Amazing Grace (Phil Wickham) youtu.be/zPQKj2Zptr0 From The Inside Out (Hillsong) youtu.be/0CckHnPD6ss</p>
<p>Discover</p>  <p>25 min</p>	<p>Watch the 8 minute video talk by Ian Freestone at https://youtu.be/4LCuflhCL1k</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A) Do you have a tendency to excuse your sin by saying, "I'm only human" or "I was tired"? Or perhaps you get angry and say "so and so made me angry". What are the fundamental flaws in these approaches to excusing our own sin? B) At the other end of the scale, some Christians teach a doctrine of "sinless perfection", that is, Christians can arrive at a state where they do not sin at all. How would you respond to someone who believed that? 2. How does the teaching about being "in Christ" affect the way you think about your identity? 3. Who in your group would like to share a personal experience of freedom from slavery to sin? Perhaps in a particular area.
<p>Act</p>  <p>10 min</p>	<p>What action is God asking of you in response to what you have just discovered in God's word? How did you go this week applying what God has showed you recently? How have you seen God at work in you, through you and around you? Do you have a story to share? How can house church encourage and support you as you seek to respond to God's prompts and teaching?</p>