

# sermon notes

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August 7, 2022 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship  
Kingdom Come | “My Identity is in Christ” | **2 Thessalonians 2:13-17**

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***Don’t be alarmed, Christian, because you are...***

1. \_\_\_\_\_ by the Lord (2:13a)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ for Salvation (2:13b)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ to Glory (2:14)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ by the Truth (2:15)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ by God (2:16-17)

## Questions for Further Application of God’s Word:

### GO DEEPER

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17. How do we know that God loves us? Do you ever doubt his love for you? How does truth help you defeat those doubts? Do you ever find yourself trying to earn God’s love? Can we actually earn his love?

Paul gives two commands in this passage. Find them in 2:15. What is significant about the words “So then” which come before these commands? Paul’s commands follow the statements about our identity in Christ in verses 13-14. Do we obey these commands to establish our identity, or do we obey these commands because of our existing identity?

### GET PERSONAL

What does it mean to have one’s identity in Christ? Have you ever been tempted to find your identity in something else (i.e., your job, your family, your health, your wealth, your education, your role as husband, father, wife, mother, church-attender)? What are the dangers in finding our identity outside of Christ?

A pastor said once, “Nobody who knows you completely can love you completely except for God... not even your spouse or your children.” What does that mean? How do we know that God knows us completely but still loves us completely?

### PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Look at Paul’s explicit prayer in 2 Thessalonians 4:16-17. Paul prays for us to be comforted and strengthened in every good work and word (i.e., in all our deeds and speech). What comfort do you need from God right now? What are some ways that he could strengthen you in your deeds and speech? Write out your answers to these questions and then spend the next few minutes praying. Ask the Lord to directly comfort you and strengthen you in the areas you wrote down.

### ADVANCED QUESTION

Paul says that we have been called to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ (2:14). How exactly do we obtain Christ’s glory? When do we obtain that glory? Do we have access to that glory now?