

LIFE GROUP GUIDE: TNC #14 – Face

CONNECT IN with one another

What is your most noticeable feature, i.e. what do people see first when they look at you?

(Leaders note: This is a good fun opening question, but it will be helpful for you as leaders. People will explain what they think others notice about them, which might not always be what people *actually* notice. Use this to lead in to the message about identity.)

CONNECT UP with God

- At some point during the discussion, you should feel compelled to worship God for the new identity He has given us. This song should help you, play it on a screen or laptop if you can: <https://youtu.be/f8TkUMJtK5k>
- Sean talked about 4 of the promises God gives us with our new identity from Ephesians 1: That we are **in Christ**, that we are **adopted** into the royal family, that we are **redeemed** (bought with a price, & therefore have value to God), and we have an **inheritance** to come. In pairs, (3 max), ask yourself: which one of these promises do I find hardest to grasp hold of?
- What do you think the promised inheritance actually is? References to it include: Eph 1:11, Col 3:24, Hebrews 9:15, 1 Peter 1:4, Revelation 21:4.
- Why do you think we so easily forget what our standing is with God? Why do we so often behave the person in James 1 who forgets his own face? What are some ways we can keep reminding ourselves of who our identity is found in?

CONNECT OUT with the non-church people around you

- Spend some time praying for and interceding on behalf of friends or family members who you know struggle with their identity. Whether it's self-worth, depression or anxiety or anything else, (but only share as much detail as necessary). If you've really grasped this concept about being a child of God for yourself, you're going to want your loved ones to experience it as well, so pray in expectation that God will move!
- Ask one another how you are going to use this Christmas season to show people around you the love of Christ. Whether its looking in on an elderly neighbour, inviting a friend to the carols services, or giving to Foodbank or another charity, don't be afraid to (gently!) challenge one another. Enjoy Christmas, but don't let the celebrations of the season distract you from seeing the gospel opportunities around you.