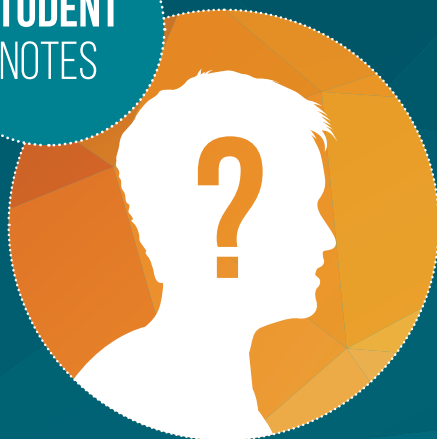


THE ID COURSE

STUDENT
NOTES



INTERNATIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

Bible discussions for international students
who want to be disciples of Jesus Christ



friends
INTERNATIONAL

THE
ID
COURSE



**STUDENT
NOTES**

INTERNATIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

Bible discussions for international students
who want to be disciples of Jesus Christ

friends
INTERNATIONAL

THE ID COURSE

FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

STUDENT NOTES

First published January 2013

Revised 2015

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior written permission of Friends International.

The ID Course, which comprises Leaders' Notes and Student Notes, is designed to be a flexible tool which can be adapted for a variety of situations but if any substantial changes are made, the name 'ID' may only be used with the prior written permission of Friends International.

Produced by South Wessex International Student Work (now Friends International Dorset) in association with Friends International.

Copyright © Friends International

Friends International
The Rowan Centre
All Nations Christian College
Easneye, Herts
SG12 8LX

Tel: 01920 460006

Email: info@friendsinternational.org.uk

www.friendsinternational.org.uk

Quotations from the Bible are taken from the New International Version (1984)



THE ID COURSE

Introduction	4
Programme	5
<i>Chapter 1</i>	6
<i>Chapter 2</i>	12
<i>Chapter 3</i>	18
<i>Chapter 4</i>	24
<i>Chapter 5</i>	30
<i>Chapter 6</i>	36
<i>Chapter 7</i>	42
<i>Chapter 8</i>	48
<i>Chapter 9</i>	54
<i>Chapter 10</i>	60

INTRODUCTION

Where is our identity?

Identity is important to all of us. As human beings we need to know who we are and where we belong. Many countries issue their citizens with an identity card. It is proof of who you are and the country where you belong. As a citizen of your country you have certain rights and privileges but also certain responsibilities.

When we become Christians and start to follow Jesus we gain a new identity. Our personality doesn't change, nor does our nationality. However, we become disciples of Jesus Christ. So what does this mean? It means we have new relationships - with God Himself and with His people. We should have new values and priorities. The Bible describes us as being 'in Christ' and God's desire is to change us so that we become more like His son, Jesus Christ. So what does this mean in practice? How will it affect the way we live and the way we view things? If you started to follow Jesus in this country, what will it mean for you to live as a Christian when you return home? This series of Bible Studies is written to help you begin to think through some of what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. Welcome to the big adventure!

"If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8: 31b-32

THE PROGRAMME

- CHAPTER 1 **Who am I?**
My identity in Christ
- CHAPTER 2 **Forgiveness**
I am forgiven and forgiving
- CHAPTER 3 **Guidance**
How do I make decisions?
- CHAPTER 4 **Family Life**
How should I relate to my parents?
- CHAPTER 5 **Relationships**
Questions about marriage and singleness
- CHAPTER 6 **Church**
I belong to a new community
- CHAPTER 7 **Culture and Religion**
Religious customs concerning death and the after-life in my country
- CHAPTER 8 **How I use my Time**
Understanding Biblical principles of work and rest
- CHAPTER 9 **Money and Possessions**
How should I use my money?
- CHAPTER 10 **You shall be my Witnesses**
How can I tell others about Jesus?

Each chapter begins with personal and cultural questions and chapters 2-9 include case studies

CHAPTER 1

WHO AM I?

My identity in Christ



Group Discussion (In pairs or small groups)

1. Who are you?

I am...

- male or female
- Brazilian, Chinese, German, Turkish ...
- a student, teacher, nurse, engineer ...
- a son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt ...
- a husband, wife, parent, single ...
- confident, shy, hard-working, lazy, an optimist, pessimist ..
- musical, technical, sporty, creative, academic ...

Introduce yourself to a partner in pairs.

- How would you describe yourself?

- What is important to your identity?

2. What do people in your country consider to be important values, customs and characteristics?

We...

Perhaps consider:

Have historical or political changes in your country affected the way people in your country think about their national identity?

For many people their religion is also an important part of their identity. Has that been or is it perhaps still true for you?

3. How have you changed since coming to the UK?

SUBJECT

Relationship with my family

Relationship with my friends

The way I study

The things I enjoy doing

My view of my home culture

My view of British culture

My values

Any other way

BEFORE

e.g. I didn't share much with them

AFTER

e.g. I share my feelings more often



What Does The Bible Say?

Christian Identity

1. What does it mean to have a Christian identity?



If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.

2 Corinthians 5:17a

2. What do you think changed when you, or your friend, became a Christian?

What is in the process of changing?

And what stayed the same?

3. Read the following verses and write down what you used to be before you became a Christian and what you *now are*:

JOHN 1:12-13

Before

EPHESIANS 2:1-6

Now

1 PETER 2:10

4. Below are listed some aspects of your new identity to think about.
(If you have limited time look up just the verse in **bold type**)

Discuss what you think each of the following means for you:



I have a new heavenly Father

John 1:12-13 Romans 8:15



I am chosen by God

John 15:16 1 Peter 2:9



I belong to a new family

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 Ephesians 3:14-15



I am forgiven by God

Romans 4:7 **1 John 2:12**



I have a new Master

Philippians 3:8 **Colossians 2:6; 3:24b**



I have a new destiny

Revelation 21:1-4



I am being sanctified/changed to be like Jesus

Romans 8:29 **2 Corinthians 3:18**



Think and Pray

As you think about your personal identity in Christ:

- What did you learn for the first time in this study?

- How will it help you to face situations in the coming week?



Key Verse



“If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.”

2 Corinthians 5:17

FORGIVENESS

I am forgiven & forgiving

This is a big subject and not an easy one. Some of us may have had painful experiences in this area. It is important to be honest with God.



Group Discussion (In pairs or small groups)

1. What does it mean 'to forgive' someone?

Can you give any examples?

2. Is forgiveness the same as saying 'It doesn't matter'?

3. How does your culture view forgiveness?

Is it a good thing or a weak thing in your culture to forgive?



What Does The Bible Say?

A A Parable of Jesus

Matthew 18:21-35

This is a parable (a story with a deeper meaning) about forgiveness. The Jewish teachers (Rabbis) had discussed how often we should forgive and had decided 'not more than 3 times!' So Peter was being generous!

v22. Some translations read 77 times; some 7x70 (=490) times. The actual numbers are not important. Jesus is saying we should forgive an unlimited number of times. In the same way, the numbers describing the money owed are symbols to show very high and very low amounts.

Section i: What happened?

Either summarise what happened or use the questions below:

1. How much money did the man owe the king (v24)?
2. What did the king decide to do with the servant who owed him money?
3. Why did the king change his mind?
4. Do you think it would be possible for the man to pay back everything (v26)?
5. How much did the fellow servant owe this man?
6. How did the man behave towards his fellow servant?
7. What did the other servants think of his behaviour?

End of
Preview

friends
INTERNATIONAL

The Rowan Centre, All Nations Christian College, Easneye, Herts, SG12 8LX

TEL. 01920 460 006 WEB. www.friendsinternational.org.uk E-MAIL. info@friendsinternational.org.uk

Friends International is a registered charity no. 1094095