

ID Me, Please

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1

**Lesson 6****Focus:**

I can identify with
God's people.

Lesson 6**Bible Basis:**

Matthew 3:13-17;
John 1:29-34

Lesson 6**Memory Verse:**

We are all members of one body.
—Ephesians 4:25b

Students will watch a video about identity as they discover ways they identify with God and His people.

Materials:

- Internet access

- **What does the word *identify* mean?** (Answers based on Merriam-Webster definition: to pinpoint; to be united with others in something; to single out; to distinguish, etc.)
- **What things do you identify with?** (Answers may include: my family; my culture; clubs; sports teams; school mascots; etc.)

The things we identify with help to make us who we are. We gain confidence knowing there are others who like what we like, who support the same causes we care about, believe in the same things, or come from the same background.

Let's take a look at a clip about adult siblings meeting for the first time thanks to a DNA test. While they were raised in different homes and difference countries, they quickly identify with each other as siblings. Let's take a look.

Play the following clip [2:07; stop at 1:13]:

After 70 years, DNA test reunites 3 long-lost siblings across the pond: "Just awesome"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rIaAC_A4_v8

- **How do you think it felt for the siblings to meet for the first time and discover the similarities they had, such as physical appearances?** (Answers many include: nervous, excited to connect, eager to see how they were similar, etc.)
- **How does it make you feel when you see others who are the same as you?** (Answers: It makes me want to talk to them and get their opinions on our common interests; I get excited when I see others just like me, etc.)

Just as these siblings loved discovering their similarities, most people love to find similarities between themselves and others. Identifying with others on a common cause can make us feel great. We know we're not alone! Seeing others who feel just like us about something can help us feel confident about who we are.

Today we are going to look at how Jesus identified with God-followers. Let's see what He did and what it means for you and me.

Additional resources:

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/identify>

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 6 / January 5, 2025

ID Me, Please

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 6

Focus:

I can identify with
God's people.

Lesson 6

Bible Basis:

Matthew 3:13-17;
John 1:29-34

Lesson 6

Memory Verse:

We are all members of one body.
—Ephesians 4:25b

Materials:

- Internet access
- Coat of Arms worksheet printouts (1 per student; template found at the end of this document)
- Pens/pencils
- Markers/colored pencils

Before class, print out a copy of the Coat of Arms template for each student. If your class is meeting online, email the template for families to print ahead of time. Invite students to bring supplies with them to class.

Coat of Arms Family Crest PDF

<https://www.therapistaid.com/worksheets/coat-of-arms-family-crest.pdf>

Earlier we saw Jesus was baptized to identify Himself with other believers. He wanted to fulfill all righteousness by His act of baptism even though He was sinless. Followers of God could see that Jesus obeyed God just as they did.

- **In what ways do you identify with Jesus?** (Answers may include: I'm a follower of His; I belong to Him; I've been baptized like Him, etc.)
- **What are ways you identify with other believers?** (Answers will vary; examples might be: We've been baptized; we are followers of Christ; we go to the same church, etc.)

Belonging to the family of God is amazing! There are millions of people in our family all over the world. We all identify with one another.

- **What can you tell us about a Coat of Arms?** (Allow a few students to share.)

Long ago in many parts of Europe, a Coat of Arms was worn by the medieval knights so they could be identified by others in battle. The Coat of Arms was very important to a knight because it let others know what he and his family were about.

If time allows, play this video clip for your students [1:38].

What is a Coat of Arms

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=osbMXZstL4o&feature=youtu.be>

The Coat of Arms—sometimes called a family crest—tells the story of a family’s history. It has pictures and symbols representing symbolic events that have happened in that family. Your job today is to create your own Coat of Arms, one that identifies you as being a part of the family of God.

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home). On the banner below the shield students should write “Family of God.”

In each quadrant of the shield, students should write or draw something that identifies them with Christ and His Body of believers. For example: they can write dates and draw pictures of when they learned about Christ, when they were baptized, sharing Jesus with a friend or the name and picture of your church, etc. They might also picture traditional symbols of their faith such as a cross, an empty tomb, a dove, etc. As students work on their Coat of Arms, be sure to create one for yourself.

For any student who has not identified with the Body of Christ, have them create a Coat of Arms based on things that represent God and His creation since they can identify with that: a rainbow, the Earth, stars, people holding hands around a globe, etc. On the bottom banner they can write God’s Creation instead of Family of God. Be cautious not to make anyone feel uncomfortable if they’re unsure of their salvation. Perhaps offer this alternative option for anyone who is new to your class or seems unsure of the assignment. Always make yourself available after class to students who would like to understand more about being part of God’s family.

➤ **What pictures and words did you write to represent being a part of the family of God?** (Allow volunteers to share; share what you included on your own Coat of Arms.)

Identifying with God and His family is the only way to live! We are so blessed to belong to our church. We have a wonderful church family who loves and cares for one another. As our focus verse says in Ephesians 4:25, we are all members of one Body.

Encourage believers who were unable to include baptism on their Coat of Arms today to talk to God and their parents if they think that is a step they would like to take.

Take your Coat of Arms home and display it proudly. Let your family see with whom you are identifying. This week as you think about the pictures you’ve drawn, consider how you are living this out every day. Challenge them to make sure they aren’t just pictures, but a way of life.

Pray to close.

Additional resources:

What the symbols on coats of arms, family crests and seals mean

<https://www.genesreunited.co.uk/blog/genes-reunited-blog/archive/2013/11/7/what-the-symbols-on-coats-of-arms,-family-crests-and-seals-mean>

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