

Identity—Reputation

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Luke 4-7.
- B. Before Jesus ministered He settled some issues.

II. Identity. (Luke 4)

- A. Everybody is trying to find themselves today.
- B. Many find their identity in what they do.
- C. Finding our identity in our possessions and activities will betray us.

III. Reputation.

- A. Paul made himself of no reputation.
- B. We have to surrender our reputation.
- C. We cannot serve authentically if we want to get the glory.

IV. We must settle both of these issues.

- A. Identity is found over time through the word of God.
- B. Reputation must be surrendered for the sake of love.
- C. The person who is integrated will be consistent. (Luke 4, 7)

V. There is no dichotomy for the Christian between sacred and secular.

- A. Everything is sacred. (Psalm 86:11)
- B. Christ is our life. (Colossians 3:4)
- C. We must be Jesus' servant no matter the cost.

Application questions:

1. How have you faced identity challenges?

2. Why is it important to be willing to sacrifice our reputation?

3. What does it look like for the person who has Christ as his life? Explain.
