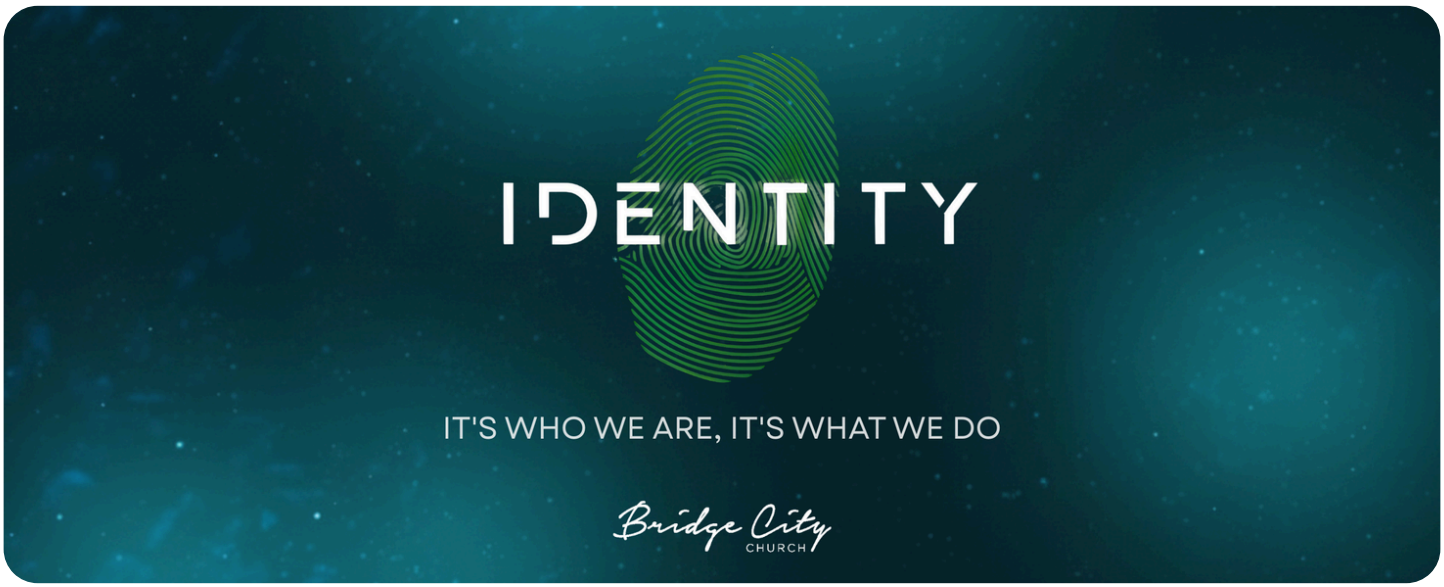


Part 1: We Can't Stay Here ***October 11, 2026***

CONVERSATION GUIDE

SMALL GROUPS

We're kicking off ***Identity***: It's Who We Are, It's What We Do, a series where we'll discover how our identity in Christ shapes who we are and how we live, both individually and as a church. And we're starting with a truth that may challenge us: we can't stay where we are simply because it feels comfortable. God calls us to keep growing, trusting, and taking steps of faith. This week, we'll reflect on how to acknowledge what God has already done without allowing our past to determine how far we're willing to move forward.

In ***Deuteronomy 1:6-8***, God reminds Israel that they had stayed at Mount Sinai long enough and commands them to move toward the land He had promised their ancestors. That place had been an important part of their story, but it wasn't their final destination. God's faithfulness in the past was meant to strengthen their trust to obey Him in the present. In the same way, we can be grateful for the seasons we've experienced without allowing them to become a reason to resist what God is showing us today.

> **When we were at Mount Sinai, the Lord our God said to us, 'You have stayed at this mountain long enough. It is time to break camp and move on… Look, I am giving all this land to you! Go in and occupy it, for it is the land the Lord swore to give to your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and to all their descendants.'**
>
> **Deuteronomy 1:6-7a, 8 (NLT)**

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What does God's instruction to Israel teach us about the difference between valuing a season of our lives and recognizing when it's time to move forward?

2. According to ***Philippians 3:13-14***, why do you think we sometimes struggle to leave certain seasons of our lives behind, even when we know God is calling us to move forward?
3. What are some things that can cause us to confuse being comfortable with being where God wants us to stay?

We can be grateful for what God did yesterday and still move forward into what He wants to do tomorrow.

MAKE IT PRACTICAL

This week, dare to leave the area where you've gotten comfortable:

1. **Obey the next step God is showing you.** Identify something you've been putting off because of fear or comfort, and take a few minutes to pray and determine one responsible first step you can take this week.
2. **Don't build your future around what God did in the past.** Write down something good from a previous season that still influences your decisions, and consider what you need to change so you don't remain stuck in that season.

PRAYER

"Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness throughout every season of our lives. We recognize that our identity is in Christ, but we often prefer what's familiar instead of trusting Your direction. Help us hear Your voice, overcome our fears, and live according to who You've called us to be. May we take steps of faith this week without forgetting everything You've already done for us. Amen."

TIPS

- **Moving forward requires discernment, not just making changes.** Learn to recognize the difference between a decision driven by pressure and a response guided by faith.
- **Don't get discouraged if your progress seems small this week.** God also shapes our character through processes that take time.
- **Your story with God is still unfolding.** We can look back and recognize His faithfulness while looking ahead with confidence that He's not finished working in us yet.

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