

SESSION 2

GETTING STARTED

What is their true identity? Work to see who can be first to correctly guess the real identities of the famous individuals below.

KATY PERRY	BATMAN	BRUNO MARS	JAMIE FOXX	CATWOMAN
Kathryn Hudson	Bruce Wayne	Peter Gene Hernandez	Erin Marlon Bishop	Salina Kyle
DRAKE	SUPERMAN	CAPTAIN AMERICA	VIN DIESEL	WOLVERINE
Aubrey Graham	Clark Kent	Steve Rogers	Mark Sinclair Vincent	James Logan Howlett

WORD BANK

KATHRYN HUDSON

AUBREY GRAHAM

ERIN MARLON BISHOP

MARK SINCLAIR VINCENT

PETER GENE HERNANDEZ

BRUCE WAYNE

STEVE ROGERS

CLARK KENT

JAMES LOGAN HOWLETT

SELINA KYLE

SESSION 2

DIGGING IN

Work with your group to process through this time of Bible study.

Spend some time talking through the following questions with your group.

Come up with a few situations where it's hard for teenagers to be themselves.

(If you choose, use the space below to write your answers.)

Answers will vary

Come up with a quick list of emotions a person might feel who finds himself or herself in these situations.

Answers will vary

In the situations you've discussed, what would be some reasons teenagers might be tempted to hide their true identities?

Answers will vary

Is there anything wrong with changing who you are to fit the situation? Explain.

Answers will vary

[1] And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. [2] And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. [3] And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. [4] And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. [5] And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." [6] Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, [7] "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" [8] And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? [9] Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? [10] But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic—[11] "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." [12] And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!" - Mark 2:1-12

Read the passage with your group and answer the questions below. If you want, use the space provided after each question to write your responses.

- **Read verses 1-4. Summarize exactly what's going on here by describing the scene surrounding the story.**

Answers will vary. Make sure students cover the fact that large crowds of people came to Jesus based on stories or accounts they had heard of Jesus' ability to perform miracles. This is important as you begin to set up the concept of Jesus' identity.

- **What do the crowd's actions, including the actions of the four men, say about who they believed Jesus to be?**

Many in the crowd would have acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah. Some would have doubted or been confused about Jesus' identity. They still came to be healed or to watch Him heal. What we can say for sure is that the people knew there was something unique about Jesus regardless of whether or not they truly equated this with Jesus' identity as God's Son.

- **Look at verses 5-7. What is surprising about Jesus' response?**

Jesus was healing people. The paralytic's friends expected Jesus to heal their friend. Jesus had to know this. But Jesus didn't do as they expected. He told the man His sins would be forgiven.

- **What is the issue the scribes have with Jesus? What is their problem?**

The scribes' real issue with Jesus is that they heard His response and doubted who Jesus was. They did not think He had the ability to forgive sins because they did not think He was the Son of God. And so they doubted Him.

- **Now look at verses 8-11. Jesus responded to the critical thoughts of the scribes. What can we learn from His response?**

Jesus didn't back down. He didn't shrink away. He didn't apologize for who He was or try and fit in with the scribes. He simply acted in a way consistent with who He is.

- **Explain why Jesus replied the way He did. What was He accomplishing?**

Jesus was confirming His identity. He was standing up to the doubt of the scribes.

- **In verse 12, the man walks. What did this prove?**

This proves that Jesus was exactly who He said He was. By doing nothing more than being who He was, Jesus proved the doubters wrong about His identity.

SESSION 2

WRAPPING UP

Work with your group to have a discussion all about what your identity is built on.

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
- Galatians 2:20

Refer to your leaders guide for instructions and questions/possible answers.