



Everyone is known for something. Today the question I ask you is this, “what are you known for?” We are known to people in two ways, in the natural and in our spiritual walk. You see, we are known not by what we KNOW, but what we DO with what we KNOW.

A few weeks ago, I had two prominent leaders ask me specifically about my Italian heritage. Both of them said to me, “I bet you can cook some great Italian stuff.” I laughed and told them I was very fortunate to have had a mother who tried to impart what she knew to me and I put into practice what she taught me. However, their questions got me thinking. I asked them what made them think that, and they both said, “Just what we see.”

Just what they see? Hmmm.....What else do people “see” in me and what else am I known for? We all have characteristics we are known for (spiritual and natural tendencies). They can be good, or not so good.

Here are few examples of natural good things:

- Italians are known to have great food and passionate natures. They can really cook and most of my relatives had two kitchens because they cooked so much!!!
- Greeks are known for their large, loud family gatherings surrounded with incredibly wonderful meals.

- Southern people in the USA are known for the warmth of their hospitality. They always know how to make someone feel welcomed.

Here are a few examples in the spiritual of good and ummm...negative.

Strong in prayer.

Loving and helpful.

Gossipy or backbiter

Faithful and kind.

Teachable.

Not teachable.

Critical.

Uplifting.

Shall I go on? I think you get the idea of where I am going with this. So, what are you known for?

“You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them” (Matthew 7:16-20).

It's great to have a family culture that people like, but shouldn't we be known for more? I am not saying it's wrong to be known for your ethnic background, unless you carry characteristics that counter the fruits of the spirit.

I want to be known for more than my good cooking! GRIN.

Gina Cobb

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