

Identity Matters

*“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it”
(1 Corinthians 12:27).*

When you are marked by God, you are a Christian and noted by the enemy. When Jesus was tested in the wilderness, a significant part of the enemy’s challenge was to tempt Him to doubt God’s Word and question His own identity. A similar challenge confronts you and identity issues plague all of us!

You are a wonderful creation of God and your identity matters. It's normal for you to desire to identify with something or someone. It makes you feel connected and gives you a sense of belonging. When God formed you in your mother’s womb, He did so with great care and detail and this is where that desire comes from.. From the very beginning, God had big plans for you to be connected to Him and you were made to represent the One who made it all (Genesis 1:27).

Did you know the word Christian literally means "anointed one." You are anointed in Him. When you don’t understand your identity, you won’t live life the way God fully intends for you. You may receive an overwhelming amount of messages telling you to define yourself by external measures.

Your life’s assignment is more purposeful than you could possibly imagine. AW Tozer once said, “The most important thing about you is what you think about when you think about God.”

Your vision and view of God is important and definitely impacts aspects of your life. Satan will try to suppress your identity using any means possible. Sometimes, it comes through discouragement, discontentment, dissatisfaction, doubt, delayed answer in prayers or inadequacy. Other times, a traumatic event can trigger a crisis of identity or if you are honest with yourself, there are times when you feel insecure.

I am speaking from experience when I say, “If who you are is wrapped up in what you do, you are set up for disillusionment.” Getting to the place of walking in your identity in Christ is the key to spiritual victory. Anytime you battle with identity it’s because you don’t understand what God says about you.

Your identity is wrapped up in Jesus Christ with His love as the foundation of your identity. God knew what part you would play in the body of Christ and it was unique to you.

God set things up so that your gifts or talents are necessary in the Body of Christ and are a big part of your identity. *“I wish that all of you were as I am. But each of you has your own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that”* (1 Corinthians 7:7).

Apart from Jesus, you cannot know your true identity, not to mention the Lord specially equipped you for certain good works with your identity intertwined within His purposes. *“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do”* (Ephesians 2:10).

You were created to reflect the glory of God and, and you will never find lasting fulfillment apart from him. Believing that you are unconditionally loved by God is the first step toward maintaining your true, unshakeable identity!

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Verses of truth concerning Who you ARE!

- I am the wonderful creation of a loving God. He knows everything about me (Psalm 139:13-14).
- I was made to reflect the image of God. My abilities to create, learn and love come from Him. I have so much in common with the Creator (Genesis 1:27).
- I am adopted into God's family, and I will live for eternity as His child (Romans 8:15).
- I've been created with a purpose. God has prepared good works for me to do, and He will " give me everything I need to carry them out (Ephesians 2:10).
- I was chosen by God, and I am special to Him (1 Peter 2:9).
- I am a citizen of heaven; this world is not my home (Philippians 3:20).
- I am never in the dark. God's Word helps me find my way in dark times (Psalm 119:105).