



Your True Identity

Who Am I ?

MODULE I
January 2019

DISCOVER YOUR TRUE IDENTITY

MENTORSHIP WITH SUPRABHAT

Speiro Ministries

Manual and Workbook



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Discover Your True Identity
Mentorship with Suprabhat
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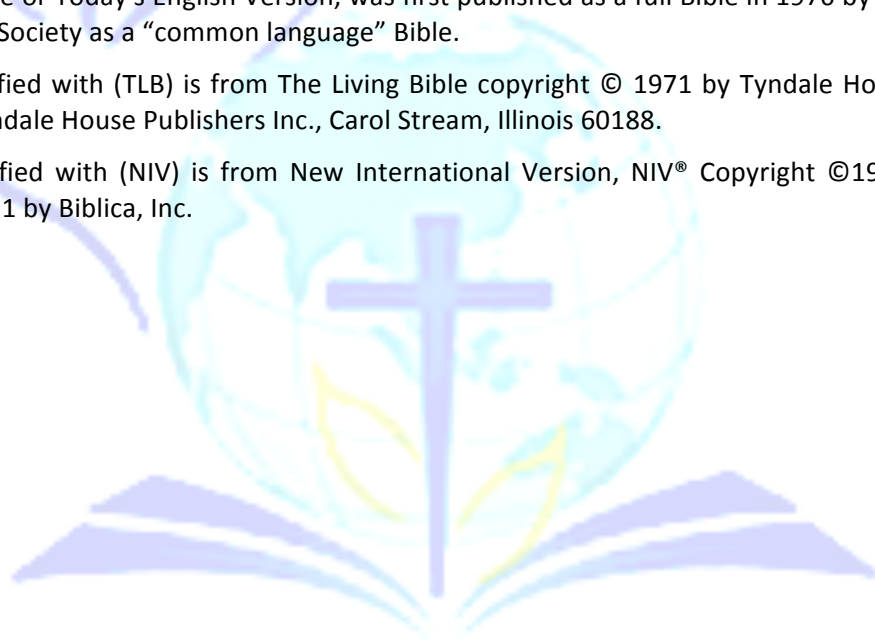
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Dear Mentee,

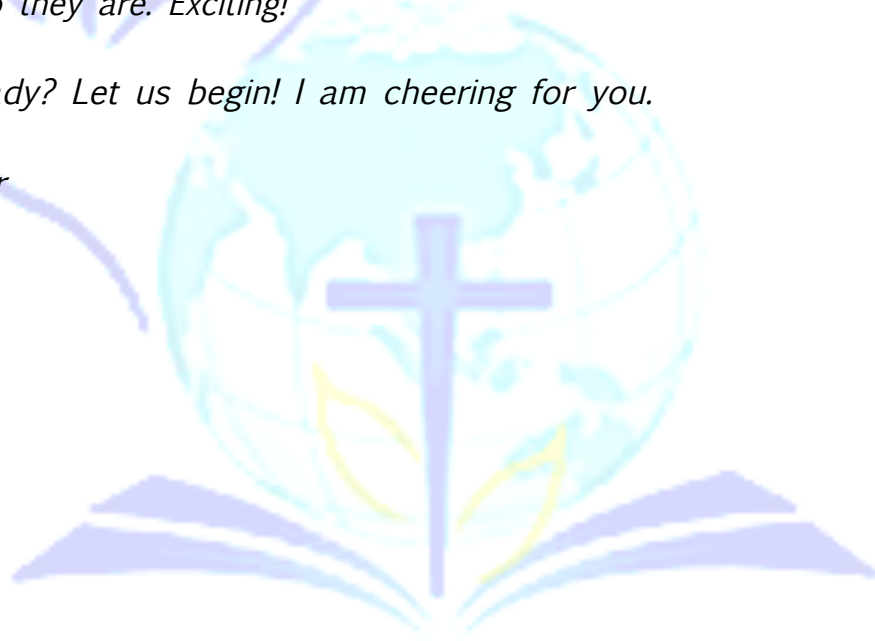
One of our needs as individuals in order to live our life to its full potential is to know who we are. “We are His workmanship.” “He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world.” due to various influences from different sources over us since childhood, our identity gets clouded. We have to discover it and then believe it and intentionally walk in it.



In this course, you will receive valuable tools to discover your true identity. Once you know your true identity, you can not only love yourself and others properly, but also know God better, fulfil the Great Commandments and walk in your God given destiny to fulfil your divine assignment. It gives you access and you begin to help others to become who they are. Exciting!

Are you ready? Let us begin! I am cheering for you.

*Your Mentor
Suprabhat*



Session I Introduction

Welcome!

There are four or five fundamental questions of life. We all grapple with them. You have asked them, I have asked them. One of the fundamental questions is Who Am I?

If you take a minute and give an introduction of yourself. Go ahead, write it in your journal.

We all look for identities in different things — name, race, country of origin, job, religion and so on.

But none of them is our true identity.

It is normal for us to identify with something or someone. It makes us feel connected and gives us a feeling of belonging. In our everyday life, we identify with a person, organisation, occupation, nationality, or church.

Many identify with the problems that confront them. You can tell they do this because they call themselves by their problems: divorced, bankrupt, broke, and so forth.

Some identify with a profession. They say things like, "I am a salesman," or "I am a lawyer." Or "I am a doctor." But your profession is not who you are; it is what you do. Others identify with the disease that is attacking their bodies. They say, "I am a diabetic," "I am myopic," or "I am bipolar."

Satan is trying to erase your true identity. Satan cannot create anything. Only God creates. Satan can only pervert, distort or destroy. What God has created for good, Satan wants to pervert it, distort it and destroy it.

He knows that if he can keep you from being you, who God made you to be, if he can hide your true identity, if he can distort your true identity, if he can destroy what God intended for you to be, he succeeded in hurting God by hurting His people.

He uses some tools to do it.

1. Opinions of other people.
2. Cause hurt and pain in your life.
3. Media and culture.
4. Thoughts.

- 5. Get you to repeat what he or others have told you.

These hide your true identity.

All these tools are being used against you to conceal what God made you to be, things your parents said, your colleagues said, your friends said, the media said, the society said, Satan said, things that you say to yourself.

How do you know the real you? The 'you' that God made you to be?

Reflection



Session II Identifiers - I

Write down 10 identifiers that describe you. They can be positive, negative or neutral.

Here is my list: son, husband, father, mentor, creative, organised, strategic thinker, preacher, teacher, evangelist.

God recognises each of these things. But, thankfully, He sees more than these.

At Creation, God made us in His image and likeness (Genesis 1:26). Though we fell, when we accept that Jesus took our sin, died for it and then rose again victorious, we become the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21).

God sees us through Christ. It is Christ who shapes our identity.

"Not only do we not know God except through Jesus Christ; we do not even know ourselves except through Jesus Christ." - Blaise Pascal

Bible says you are in Christ. God says because you are in Christ, here is your true identity.

Let us look at what God sees the identifiers of who you are.

1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

A chosen generation. You are chosen.

A royal priesthood. You are a royal priest.

A holy nation. You are holy.

His own special people. You are people belonging to God.

He called. You are called, received mercy.

1) I am completely accepted

We all have wounds, we all have struggles in our lives. Some of the deepest wounds in our life often comes from rejection.

And we try to solve that wound by trying to find acceptance in our lives. But we chase after all the wrong places.

He treated me better than I deserve. He made us acceptable to God and gave us hope of eternal life.

He made us and He gave us.
Acceptance comes from Jesus. And it can be received only as a gift.

That is where your identity starts realising I am accepted by God.

Reflect on the areas you felt you are not accepted. Reflect on the reasons you did not accept yourself. Replace them with God's truth.

I am not just completely accepted.

2) I am extremely valuable.

This is better than even accepted. We want to be accepted but we want more than acceptance. We want to be valued.

Peter's description of you that you are a holy nation and people belonging to God.
Holy and belonging. Both these words imply extremely valuable.

What makes something valuable?

a) Depends who owns it. Who do you belong to? Who is your owner?

If God is owner, you are extremely valuable.

Deuteronomy 7:6 Israel, you are the chosen people of the Lord your God. There are many nations on this earth, but he chose only Israel to be his very own.

Isaiah 43:4 Since you were precious in My sight, You have been honoured, And I have loved you; Therefore I will give men for you, And people for your life.

You are extremely valuable.

Because God is my Father. I am in His family; I own part of the family inheritance.

Session III Identifiers - II

So I am completely accepted. I am extremely valuable.

The third identifier in your identity is

3) I am eternally loved.

Once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Once you didn't have an identity. But now you are the people.

Hebrews 2:11 (NLT) So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.

Jeremiah 31:3 (NLT) "I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself."

Two characteristics of God's love

- 1) Unconditional
- 2) Unending

Unfailing and everlasting

Unconditional love is, I love you <period>

It is not just unconditional. It is unending, unchanging.

Why am I eternally loved?

Because God is love. (1 John 4:8)

It is His character, which is not going to change. So His love for you is not going to change.

Psalms 100:5 (GNT) The Lord is good; his love is eternal and his faithfulness lasts forever.

So, I am completely accepted, and I am extremely valuable, and I am eternally loved. That is my true identity.

Reflect on if you felt unloved or loved with conditions. Reflect when you did not love yourself. Replace them with God's truth.

Another identifier.

4) I am totally forgiven.

1 Peter 2:10 once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

(GNT) At one time you did not know God's mercy, but now you have received His mercy.

God's mercy has given us God's forgiveness. And His forgiveness is total because He knows everything, it has to be total.

God forgives and remembers it no more.

God lovingly disciplines His children. But He does not punish us for our sin.

Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.

You are totally forgiven because it is in God's nature to forgive. He is a forgiving God. Isaiah 43:25 (GNT) And yet, I am the God who forgives your sins, and I do this because of who I am. I will not hold your sins against you.

You are totally forgiven because Jesus paid for my sins. He paid it in full.

So this is your true identity.

You are acceptable. You are loveable. You are valuable. You are forgivable.

Reflect on the things you felt you are not forgiven or areas where you have not accept forgiveness. Reflect if you could not forgive someone or forgive yourself. Replace them with God's truth. Forgive. Accept forgiveness.

Now there is other identifier.

5) You are fully capable

I am fully capable.

1Peter 2:9 (NCV) But you are a chosen people, royal priests, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession. You were chosen to tell about the wonderful acts of God, who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

You are a royal priest ... chosen to tell about the wonderful acts of God.

Priest represents man to God and he represents God to man. And God says you are fully capable of doing that.

Bible says you are fully capable of representing God to other people and that is part of your calling.

Acts 26:18 (GNT) You are to open their eyes and turn them from the darkness to the light and from the power of Satan to God, so that through their faith in me they will have their sins forgiven and receive their place among God's chosen people.

God has a life mission for you. You are a priest where you work.
And God has made you competent to handle anything that is thrown at you.

But you are not supposed to do it on your own. You are supposed to do it in the power of God. And when you are in Christ, He gives you power to do things you never could do on your own.

2 Corinthians 3:5-6 There is nothing in us that allows us to claim that we are capable of doing this work. The capacity we have comes from God; it is he who made us capable of serving the new covenant, which consists not of a written law but of the Spirit. The written law brings death, but the Spirit gives life.

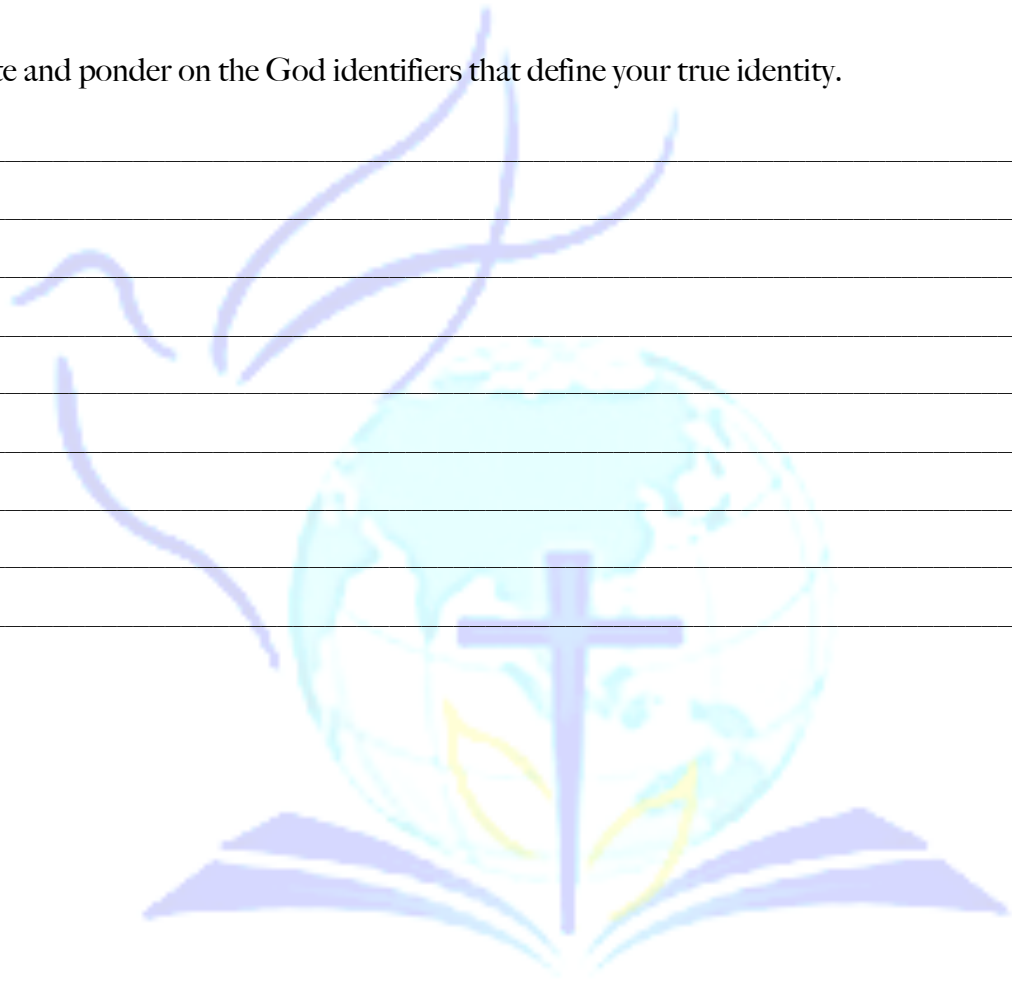
There is no one grown fully confident. We all have insecurities.
Our security is in Him.
We don't feel confident and able because we play the old tapes.

God says that you are competent to do what He has asked you to do with your life.

Philippians 4:13 (NLT) For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

Reflect on the things you felt you are incapable of or the things others said you cannot do. Replace them with God's truth.

Write and ponder on the God identifiers that define your true identity.



Session IV Our Identity In Christ

We have all experienced rejection. As we grow older, we get wiser to handle them or suppress them. The hurts that others caused remain hidden unless we deal with them.

People cursed you. They spoke things against what God created and planned. And you started believing it. You agreed with them.

To get rid of all of those false identity stuff that has stuck in your mind and get back to your true identity you start believing what God has said about you in His Word. You start believing the truth. You stop believing the lies.

You take the truth from the Word of God against each of those lies and meditate on them, memorise them, declare the promises of God over yourself, keep affirming what God says about you till the truth replaces those lies from within you.

The reason you don't accept everybody else because you don't feel accepted
The reason you don't forgive everybody else because you don't feel forgiven.
The reason you don't love everybody else because you don't feel loved.
The reason you criticise other people when they are successful because you are afraid
you are incompetent, not fully capable.

Your true identity has been stolen. And you need to get it back.

How do you bring steps to restore your true identity?

- 1 Detect. Realise that it has been stolen.
- 2 Alert anyone who can minimise the damage. You pray. Talk to God. That divorce stole my identity, that rape stole my identity, that molestation stole my identity. Getting fired and laid off stole my identity. Drugs stole my identity. I need help to get my true identity back.
- 3 Stop. Close any account that has been compromised. Shut down those accounts in your life. Cutoff from those fake friends. They are not your friends. They are with you because you behave in a manner, act the way they want you to act. And you don't really want to act that way. That phoniness, pretending what you not really are, deception, etc. Close down those accounts. Don't try to please everybody else.

4 Change. Change what you allow in your mind. I am not going to allow those thoughts in my mind. I am going to fill my mind with the truth.

5 Stay alert. Realise it can happen again. You got to defend yourself. When Satan comes and tempts you, you can tell him that he is a liar and command it to go.

This is your true identity.

Our Identity is In Christ.

One of the most important revelations we can get from the Word of God is to understand who we are in Christ. Identifying with Christ will change the way we live and cause us to rise above adversity. Not understanding our identity in Him will keep us living far below our rights and privileges in Christ.

What does it mean to identify with Christ?

In Him we live and move and have our being. (Acts 17:28)

Who Am I? The reflection of I AM.

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

The scriptures say we have been crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20). Not only did we die with Him on the cross at Calvary, we also have been raised with Him.

Ephesians 2:4-7

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

When we really understand our identity in Christ—who we are in Him—it changes the way we think and live.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

That same verse in The Living Bible says, "When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!"

Before we were in Christ, we were destined for death and destruction. Now we are destined for eternal life (1 John 2:25).

Before Christ, we were destined for despair, degradation, and poverty. But in Christ, we are destined to have life and have it more abundantly (John 10:10).

In Christ is where our identity should be. It is in Jesus that we are somebody!

In the bible God often changed people's identities. They looked at themselves one way, but God told them who they really were. This is what happened to Gideon. He was so terrified of the Midianites that he hid inside a winepress to thresh his wheat. He believed the Midianites would take what little he had if they saw him threshing grain (Judges 6:1-11).

One day the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon and said, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior" (Judges 6:12 NIV). Gideon was acting like anything but a mighty warrior! However, when he finally saw himself the way God saw him, he went on to deliver the Israelites (Judges 7:1-25).

God also changed Abram's name. It was impossible for Abram and his wife, Sarai, to have children. But God said, "No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations" (Genesis 17:5 NIV). He also changed Sarai's name to Sarah (Genesis 17:15). And God's words were fulfilled when Sarah gave birth to Isaac.

In Peniel (Genesis 32), two things in Jacob changed. What did God change in Jacob?

On the Damascus Road, Saul encountered God (Acts 9). What did God change in Saul? What did God give to Saul?

God calls those things that are not as though they were (Romans 4:17). In the natural realm, what God is calling us may not exist. But in His eyes, it does. So we need to talk about ourselves the same way God does.

What God says about us is found in His Word. Here are some things we are and have in Christ:

We are new creatures (2 Corinthians 5:17).
We are the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21).
We've been healed (1 Peter 2:24).
We've been made rich (2 Corinthians 8:9).
We are accepted (Ephesians 1:6).
We are free from sin (Romans 6:20-22).

You need to stand up and be who God says you are. And we need to let the devil know that we know who we are in Christ. Then anytime he tries to attack us, we can throw our shoulders back and say, "Don't mess with me. I am identified with Christ!"

When you identify with Christ, God gives you a new identity.
Instead of SINNER, you are called SAVED.
Instead of LOST, you are called FOUND.
Instead of ENEMY, you are called FRIEND.
Instead of UNRIGHTEOUS, you are called RIGHTEOUS.
Instead of SICK, you are called HEALED.
Instead of POOR, you are called RICH.

We are children of God. We are sons and daughters. We are joint-heirs with Christ.

Galatians 4: 1-7

Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Romans 8: 14-17

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

You are a son/daughter. You have received the spirit of sonship.

Meditate on these Scriptures and the ones given below. Declare them over you.

John 1:12 (NKJV)

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name

Ephesians 1:4 (NKJV)

just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

Ephesians 1:5 (NKJV)

having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Romans 15:7 (NKJV)

Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.

Colossians 2:9-10 (NKJV)

For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

1 Corinthians 6:17 (NIV)

But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

Romans 6:6 (NIV)

For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—

Genesis 1:27 (NKJV)

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Jeremiah 1:5 (NKJV)

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

1 Corinthians 12:27 (NKJV)

Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

1 Peter 2:9 New King James Version (NKJV)

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Galatians 3:27-28 (NKJV)

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Session V Benefits of Knowing Our True Identity

Why do we need to know our true identity?
How our Identity in Christ changes our lives?

Understanding our true identity in Christ can greatly impact the way we live our lives.

It enables us to know God intimately, love self and others and walk in our divine assignment.

You have the inheritance.

Being a joint-heir with Christ means that we, as God's adopted children, will share in the inheritance of Jesus.

Christ gives us His glory (John 17:22), His riches (2 Corinthians 8:9), and all things (Hebrews 1:2). We are as welcome in God's family as Jesus is; we are "accepted in the Beloved" (Ephesians 1:6, NKJV).

Galatians 4: 7 You are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir"

Everything that God owns belongs to us as well because we belong to Him.

Romans 8: 17

...and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

Reflect on your inheritance.

Benefits.

1. We no longer chase after men but focus and desire God in every area of our lives.

Knowing who we truly are, when we are grounded in our reality of who God created us to be, we no longer run after men but God. Our worship is to God alone.

Galatians 1:10 (NIV) Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Jeremiah 17:5 (NKJV) Thus says the Lord: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man And makes flesh his strength, Whose heart departs from the Lord.

Our true identity creates in us a hunger for intimacy with God , to draw closer to Him.

If we are not seeking to find our identity in Christ alone, then we can keep seeking someone or something else and never find it.

2. We no longer chase after the desires of our flesh but instead seek to bring God glory in all areas of our life.

1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

When our identity is in the eternal things of Christ, we are not affected by our success or failures in the world. We will not be seeking success from our achievement in education or job or social strata. We won't get lost seeking the attractive but empty and temporal things the world offers because Christ gives us a stable and eternal hope.

3. We no longer fear the future.

Romans 8:14-15 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

When we are in Christ, when we know God, then we have nothing to fear on this earth. Our eternities are secure as adopted sons and daughters in Christ. So we don't need to fear financial collapse, losing our job, or a cyclone or an epidemic, or being ridiculed for our faith.

When we know that God bought us with the blood of His Son so that we have our identity in the righteousness of Christ, we can trust that He will provide us everything that we need in this world.

Our identity in Christ gives us direct access to our heavenly Father, who we can call on with confidence and complete trust.

4. We have no need to judge or compare ourselves to others when we seek to please Christ alone, in whom our identity is.

Romans 14:5-8

One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks. For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

Comparing ourselves to those around us or judging the decisions that others make can not only make our life difficult but also pull us away from God. God's Word is truth and plainly shows the way to live. Our decisions need to align with the will of God.

It is easy to judge others who have different convictions than ours, which create insecurity in our own choices due to our desire to please man over God. When our identity in Christ is known, we would be careful that we are not imposing our personal convictions on others as if we are more godly than they are. Instead, would seek wisdom, be open to hear and discern other's perspectives without judgment, and then walk in confidence that God is the only one we need to honour and please in these decisions.

We also tend to compare ourselves in the area of gifts and blessings of others. God has created us unique with unique gifts and talents with the purpose of glorifying God in different ways.

When we have our identity in Christ, we seek to glorify Christ in the gifts and talents He has uniquely given us and not get lost in the pursuit of being something or someone God never created us to be.

5. We should not be surprised when tribulations come, temptations come, suffering comes.

Jesus said that in this world we will have troubles. But when we have our identity in Christ, we have peace.

John 16:33 These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

Our identity in Christ gives us the strength against temptation.

When I am tempted to behave according to my old nature, I rely upon the fact that “I am crucified with Christ.” I say to my old man, “No, I am dead to that. I no longer live in that.” “I don’t have to live according to the dictates of my old nature.” (Galatians 2:20)

The Christ in us is the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:27) He gives us the strength to say no to sin, no to lust, no to greed.

Romans 8:16-17 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

If our identity is in Christ, then we are guaranteed that we will identify with Him in His sufferings. As Christ’s sufferings defeated sin and death, therefore as we identify with Him, He uses suffering to put sin to death in us, to make us reflect more of Him. Not only does suffering sanctify us, but also it assures us that, after suffering with Him for a while, we will one day be glorified with Him. Suffering changes our earthly perspective into an eternal one.

When we know who we are in Christ, instead of fear of suffering, we can trust the season of suffering to Christ’s great purpose in our lives, to identify with and become more like Him.

6. It opens us to the flow of God’s grace in our lives.

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

Understanding that grace is divine enablement to allow the operation of the Holy Spirit in our lives that empowers us to live godly and do effective ministry. Grace is not just for our justification; grace is for our ongoing sanctification. We can walk in the favour and power we need to live and proclaim.

7. It steadies my soul and my walk with God.

When I know who I am in Christ, I am not tossed to and fro by my emotions. (James 1:6, Ephesians 4: 14). I know that I am anchored in Jesus and that my relationship with God does not change based on the way I feel.

Speiro Ministries

www.mentor.speiroministries.org
mentor@speiroministries.in

