

HOPE FOR MY FLAWS

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE: Part 3

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“You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.” (Psalm 139:13–14, NLT)

*“...A person who fears God deals responsibly with all of reality, not just a piece of it.”
(Ecclesiastes 7:18, The Message)*

FIVE FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE MY IDENTITY

“Life is like a hand of poker. You have to play the cards you’re dealt.”

- ♣ **MY CHEMISTRY.**
- ♥ **MY CONNECTIONS.**
- ♦ **MY CIRCUMSTANCES.**
- ♠ **MY CONSCIOUSNESS.**
- ♣ **MY CHOICES.**

FIVE WINNING CHOICES

1. I CAN CHOOSE TO GET HEALTHIER.

“You made my body, Lord; now give me sense to heed your laws.” (Psalm 119:73, The Living Bible)

“...You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.” (1 Corinthians 6:19–20, NIV)

“I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should.” (1 Corinthians 9:27a, NLT)

2. I CAN CHOOSE TO FORM STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS.

“After David had finished talking with Saul, he met Jonathan, the king’s son. There was an immediate bond between them, for Jonathan loved David. From that day on Saul kept David with him and wouldn’t let him return home. And Jonathan made a solemn pact with David, because he loved him as he loved himself. Jonathan sealed the pact by taking off his robe and giving it to David, together with his tunic, sword, bow, and belt.” (1 Samuel 18:1–4, NLT)

“...the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.” (1 Samuel 18:1, ESV)

“Some friends don’t help, but a true friend is closer than your own family.” (Proverbs 18:24, CEV)

“Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” (John 13:35, NLT)

3. I CAN CHOOSE TO TRUST GOD IN MY CIRCUMSTANCES.

“Look what happens to mighty warriors who do not trust in God. They trust their wealth instead and grow more and more bold in their wickedness. But I am like an olive tree, thriving in the house of God. I will always trust in God’s unfailing love. I will praise you forever, O God, for what you have done. I will trust in your good name in the presence of your faithful people.” (Psalm 52:7–9, NLT)

“I will praise the Lord no matter what happens.” (Psalm 34:1a, The Living Bible)

4. I CAN CHOOSE WHAT I THINK ABOUT.

“Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night.” (Psalm 1:1–2, NLT)

“May all my thoughts be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.” (Psalm 104:34, NLT)

“May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.” (Psalm 19:14, NLT)

5. I CAN CHOOSE TO GIVE MY LIFE TO GOD!

“O LORD, I give my life to you. I trust in you, my God!...No one who trusts in you will ever be disgraced...Show me the right path, O LORD; point out the road for me to follow. Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you.” (Psalm 25:1–5, NLT)

ACTION:

USE MY SHAPE TO SERVE GOD BY SERVING OTHERS!