

**Shannon Jackson**

**What Kind of Church is This?**

**Wednesday, May 10, 2023**

**We Are a Church Secure in Our Identity**

Have you ever stopped to ask, "What does God think about me?  
Who does he say that I am?"

**What does it matter what God thinks of us?**

**What the Bible says about God...**

- a. He is our creator.
- b. He is sovereign, all-knowing, and in control.
- c. He doesn't need anything from us.
- d. John Piper says, "Once we understand who He is, the utterance of His spoken name carries the proper weight of significance. Nothing is more basic, and nothing is more ultimate than the fact that God is."

Once we understand who God is, then we can begin to catch a glimpse of who we are.

**What the Bible says about our identity?**

In Genesis 1:26, the Bible declares **we are created in the image of God.**

Created in the image of the God we are born with the innate desire to seek out something greater than us. We are preprogrammed to search for God and discover and fulfill our unique purpose.

Even though pain and suffering entered the world through the disobedience of man, God sees us as liberated, loved, and redeemed for who we are . . . right now. Jesus took every sin we would ever commit to the cross with Him, because God's desire is to work all things for our good.

### **What does God see when He looks at us?**

- a. **We are loved?** "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." Jon 3:16 ESV
- b. **We are His** "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him." 1 John 3:1 ESV
- c. **We are worthy** "The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing." Zephaniah 3:17 ESV
- d. **We are purposed.** "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11 ESV

## **We are who God says we are.**

Our identity was set in stone and determined when God spoke man into existence. The spoken word never stops creating! We are created in God's image to be creators. That is why the words we speak are so important – they are continually producing a sound wave that ripples through our lifetime.

- a. We cannot continually speak negative things into the atmosphere and expect positive things to return to us.
- b. We impact our future with each word we speak.