

# Abundant Life: Identity: Behold, Believe, Become

Part of our worship is seeking to become what God intended

Psalm 139:13-18 New Living Translation

13 You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. 15 You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. 16 You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. 17 How precious are your thoughts about me,[a] O God. They cannot be numbered! 18 I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!

Psalm 139:23-24 New Living Translation

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. 24 Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

- “Lord lead me, but before you do that, search me, know me, test me, remove my anxiety, and all that offends you.”
- Anxiety is the enemy of our identity. God wrote the plan that He had for us, so our hearts must align with His purposes.
- We must offer them to be searched/known/tested.
- We must be aware of what we believe or pursue that offends Him.
- He's trying to lead us into the abundant life/everlasting life. But without faith, it's impossible to please Him.
- Our identity is attached to our assignment so it's imperative we believe three things. Who He is, who we are, and the glorious capabilities that are possible when we are one.
- Our true identity is so dangerous to the enemy so he must plant doubt in our minds, to grow anxiety, which is the enemy of our identity.

## Seeds of Doubt

Exodus 3:1-15 New Living Translation: Moses and the Burning Bush

3 One day Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro,[a] the priest of Midian. He led the flock far into the wilderness and came to Sinai,[b] the mountain of God. 2 There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a blazing fire from the middle of a bush. Moses stared in amazement. Though the bush was engulfed in flames, it didn't burn up. 3 "This is amazing," Moses said to himself. "Why isn't that bush burning up? I must go see it."(**BEHOLD**) 4 When the Lord saw Moses coming to take a closer look, God called to him from the middle of the bush, "Moses! Moses!" "Here I am!" Moses replied.

- The only proper response to God's call is "Here I am!"
- He calls before you think you're ready.
- He's ready to identify you and His purpose in you.

5 "Do not come any closer," the Lord warned. "Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground. 6 I am the God of your father[c]—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." When Moses heard this, he covered his face because he was afraid to look at God. 7 Then the Lord told him, "I have certainly seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries of distress because of their harsh slave drivers. Yes, I am aware of their suffering. 8 So I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and lead them out of Egypt into their own fertile and spacious land. It is a land flowing with milk and honey—the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites now live. 9 Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached me, and I have seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them. 10 Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt." 11 But Moses protested to God, "Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?"

- Who am I?

12 God answered, "I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain."(**BELIEVE**)

- God's proper response when He identifies our purpose, and we ask who we are, is to say, "I will be with you!"
- Joshua 1:5 New Living Translation

No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you.

13 But Moses protested, “If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ they will ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what should I tell them?” 14 God replied to Moses, “I am who I am.<sup>[d]</sup> Say this to the people of Israel: I am has sent me to you.” 15 God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel: Yahweh,<sup>[e]</sup> the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you. This is my eternal name, my name to remember for all generations.

Exodus 4:10-13 New Living Translation

10 But Moses pleaded with the Lord, “O Lord, I’m not very good with words. I never have been, and I’m not now, even though you have spoken to me. I get tongue-tied, and my words get tangled.” 11 Then the Lord asked Moses, “Who makes a person’s mouth? Who decides whether people speak or do not speak, hear or do not hear, see or do not see? Is it not I, the Lord? 12 Now go! I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you in what to say.” **(BECOME)** 13 But Moses again pleaded, “Lord, please! Send anyone else.”

***Why me? It’s not “you”, it’s “us”.***

1 John 4:4 New Living Translation

4 But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.

Colossians 1:27 New Living Translation

27 For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory.

## Becoming

Mark 1:16-18 New King James Version

16 And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. 17 Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." 18 They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

- It starts with becoming what God is looking for, our identity is a process of maturity.
- 1 Corinthians 13:11-12 New Living Translation When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things. 12 Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity.[a] All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.
- I didn't start as a pastor but as a correction officer and gardener.
- "God, I don't know how to be a pastor, "I do".

John 4:23-26 New Living Translation

23 But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. 24 For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth." 25 The woman said, "I know the Messiah is coming—the one who is called Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." 26 Then Jesus told her, "I am the Messiah!"[a]

- The Father God, who is a spirit, is looking for people who will worship Him that way!
- God, who is a spirit, desires a people who are in spirit as He is, to worship Him in truth, in Messiah.
- Since God is the spirit and we must worship him in spirit, then we can't worship him until we have a new spirit where does this new spirit come from? Jesus Christ is a life-giving spirit. When we enter into Christ by faith, we become one spirit with him.

## True Identity, True Worship

Romans 12:1-2 - The Passion Translation

The Transforming Power of the Gospel

1 Beloved friends, what should be our proper response to God's marvelous mercies? To surrender yourselves to God to be his sacred, living sacrifices. And live in holiness, experiencing all that delights his heart. For this becomes your genuine expression of worship.

- What's the greatest sacrifice you could offer God?
- Present your body to Him as a living sacrifice.

2 Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern/know God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes.

- How will I know my purpose? How will I know what to do?
- Give full control of your body and life to God, and don't imitate the world.
- Seek first!!
- If you give your body to the world, it will reactivate the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.
- Because the only way to engage with the world is to become worldly.
- But you are a new spirit, whose given your body to God in an act of constant worship, and living in Messiah/ the truth!
- You'll be led if you desire to follow.

Revelation 3:20 Amplified Bible

20 Behold, I stand at the door [of the church] and continually knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him (restore him), and he with Me.