

ALTAR EGO

Becoming Who God Says You Are

Lesson #1: “OVERCOMING THE LABELS THAT BIND YOU”

Feelings of Inadequacy

Don't rely too much on labels, for too often they are fables.
– Charles Spurgeon

Feelings of Inadequacy - WHY DO WE FEEL THAT WAY?

- UNFAIR Criticism.
- UNREALISTIC Compliments.
- UNWISE Comparisons.

*¹¹ Now the Angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth tree at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, and his son Gideon was beating wheat in the wine press [instead of the threshing floor] to [hide it and] save it from the Midianites. ¹² And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, “The LORD is with you, O brave man.” ¹³ But Gideon said to him, “Please my lord, if the LORD is with us, then why has all this happened to us? And where are all His wondrous works which our fathers told us about when they said, ‘Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the LORD has abandoned us and put us into the hand of Midian.” ¹⁴ The LORD turned to him and said, “Go in this strength of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian. Have I not sent you?” ¹⁵ But Gideon said to Him, “Please Lord, how am I to rescue Israel? Behold, my family is the least [significant] in Manasseh, and I am the youngest (smallest) in my father’s house.” ¹⁶ The LORD answered him, “I will certainly be with you, and you will strike down the Midianites as [if they were only] one man.” **Judges 6:11-16***

OVERCOMING THE LABELS:

“6 Things You Need To Know About You”

1) GOD’S View OF YOU IS DIFFERENT THAN YOU Think.

When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, “The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.”
Judges 6:12

- You are not who others say you are.
- God’s truth is bigger than other people’s opinions about you.
- An ALTAR EGO is who God says you are.

ALTAR EGO – the person who God says that we are – requires letting go of false labels that limit and obscure our true identity.

Two types of False Labels:

- Idealized labels: represent the carefully crafted version of ourselves that we work so hard to create and present to the world for affirmation and approval.
- Negative labels: usually earned through a pattern of behavior or things that other people have attached/and or associated to us.

*For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. **Ephesians 2:10 NLT***

2) GOD HAS Given YOU MORE THAN YOU Think.

"Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?" Judges 6:14

*His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. **2 Peter 1:3***

3) IT'S Less ABOUT YOU THAN YOU Think.

*The Lord answered, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites together." **Judges 6:16***

4) GOD CAN GIVE YOU A New Name.

*You will be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will bestow. **Isaiah 62:2***

- You will Grow Into your new name.

*⁴² Then Andrew brought Simon to meet Jesus. Looking intently at Simon, Jesus said, "Your name is Simon, son of John—but you will be called Cephas" (which means "Peter") **John 1:42 NLT***

5) GOD WILL GIVE YOU A New Purpose.

God often takes our greatest weakness and makes it our greatest strength.

6) GOD WILL GIVE YOU A New Future.

*¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. **Jeremiah 29:11 NLT***

When we know who we are, and grow into our purpose, God revises the way we see our future.

IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO BECOME WHO GODS SAYS YOU ARE!