



Steadfast Bible Fellowship

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Dear Steadfast Omaha,

There is incredible freedom that comes from knowing and living out our identity in Christ. How does a person live out their identity in Christ? First, we must build on the right foundation. Your efforts are an inadequate foundation. Your abilities are an inadequate foundation. Your bank account is an inadequate foundation. Your knowledge is an inadequate foundation. The problem is, if you start building on the wrong foundation, at some point along the way, you will realize that your foundation is inadequate. Our foundation is the person of Jesus Christ! Everything and everyone other than the person and work of Jesus Christ is inadequate (1 Corinthians 3:11)! A proper foundation is essential to handle the attacks of the evil one. Jesus is our foundation! Second, we must understand that because of Jesus our identity has completely changed. Our foundation is Christ and our identity is in Him. The challenge is not to see yourself as others see you or as you see yourself, but as God sees you. The New Testament is filled with verses that tell us about about who we are in Christ. In fact, I encourage you to spend the rest of your life learning about who Jesus is and who you are in Him. A good place to start is in Ephesians 1 and 2. Read those two chapters and note what Paul says about who we are and what we have in Jesus. Third, we must be intentional and proactive. Living out our identity in Christ takes intentionality and is done in prayer. This is a relationship and not a formula! Run to Him! What we allow our minds to think on matters. Knowing that, how should we live and what do we do when a lie or wrong thought enters our minds?

**Recognize:** Does the thought I am thinking pass the grid of Philippians 4:8?

**Reveal:** Expose the lie or bad thought for what it is. Ask yourself, “what is the lie or wrong thought trying to get me to believe or do?” Take the thought captive (2 Corinthians 10:4-5). If you don’t do this, you start making agreements or concessions.

**Resist:** Stand your ground (remember that the ground you are on is ground you were given by Jesus). This is not passive! Resist and stand firm (Ephesians. 6:14). To stand firm means to not give ground. This is all done at the throne of grace through prayer (Hebrews 4:14-16). This is a relationship with the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

He is our victory! He is our strength! He is our sufficiency! When we have a thought (lie, bad thought) come into our minds IMMEDIATELY run to the throne of grace (don't wait).

**Replace:** Put the truth back in its rightful place. Part of resisting is replacing the lie with the truth of God's Word in prayer. That is why it is so critical that you hide God's Word in your heart.

**Renew:** Renewing your mind is something that needs to happen daily in your life. It is letting the truth of God's Word continually bring life and strength to your mind. Meditate on God's Word. Memorize God's Word. Make sure you are in the Word and make sure the Word is in you! Both the Word of God and prayer are an absolute necessity in the midst of the spiritual battle. There is one thing the lies of Satan cannot stand against and that is the truth! We proclaim the truth before the throne of grace. This is a relationship not a formula! Run to Him!

Rejoicing in Him,

Pastor Matt