

Me As God Sees Me April 7, 2024

I am who God says I am

***Let's be clear & focused that our identity is in Jesus.
Let's discover who God says we are.***

Philippi 4:13 AMP I have strength for all things ***in Christ*** Who ***empowers*** me; I'm ready for anything & equal to anything ***through Him*** Who ***infuses inner*** strength into me; I'm self-sufficient ***in Christ's*** sufficiency

Why do you think about yourself the way you do?

*Who do **you** think you are? Where did the thoughts come from?*

Who told you what to think & believe?

How were you raised to think about your life & your potential?

What limits or expectations do you feel were pre-set for you?

**Parents words & examples (Dad- 6 divorces, w/ hundreds of women)*

**School teachers attitudes & comments (Pat Koehler encouraged me)*

**Religious teachings (guilt – what not to do)*

**Prejudices from your social environment*

Some “influencers” put their own pain, problems, & biases on you.

For many of us, our identity has been given to us by people, experiences, culture, social media, education, etc. Not by our Heavenly Father.

John 15:5 AMP I am the Vine; you're the branches. The one who remains in Me & I in him bears/*produces* much fruit; for otherwise apart from Me, that is, cut off from vital union w/ Me, you can do nothing.

When Jesus is Lord, you're a new person, you're in Him.

Seeing yourself in Jesus is a key to your success in life here on earth.

How we see ourselves is influencing/controlling every area of our lives.

*Oftentimes, many of us still see ourselves according to our flesh; & our past failures & weaknesses; & not **in Jesus**.*

Storytime w/ Pastor Frank...

Exodus 3:1 Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian. He led the flock far into the wilderness & came to Sinai, 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." 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. 5 "Do not come any closer," the Lord warned. "Take off your sandals, for you're standing on holy ground. 6 I am the God of your father - the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, & 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've certainly seen the oppression of My people in Egypt. I've heard their cries of distress because of their harsh slave drivers. Yes, I'm aware of their suffering. 8 So I've come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians & lead them out of Egypt into their own fertile & spacious land. It's a land flowing w/ milk & honey - the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, & Jebusites now live. 9 Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached Me, & I've seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them. 10 Now go, for I'm 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?"*** 12 God answered, "***I'll be w/ you.*** This is your sign that I'm the one who has sent you: When you've brought the people out of Egypt, you'll worship God at this very mountain." 13 ***But Moses protested,*** "If I go to the people of Israel & tell them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they'll ask me, 'What's his name?' Then what should I tell 'em?" (*notice that Moses is self-conscious not God-conscious*) 14 God replied to Moses "***I Am Who I Am.*** Say this to the people of Israel: ***I Am*** has sent me to you." (*I cause to be what comes to pass*)

God responds by continuing to say to Moses, tell Israel & everyone else more of who He is & about His name & what He will do (vision/identify)

Exodus 4:1 *But Moses protested again*, “What if they won’t believe me or listen to me? What if they say, ‘The Lord never appeared to you?’” 2 Then the Lord asked him, “What’s that in your hand?” “A shepherd’s staff,” Moses replied. 3 “Throw it down on the ground,” the Lord told him. So Moses threw down the staff, & it turned into a snake! Moses jumped back. 4 Then the Lord told him, “Reach out & grab its tail.” So Moses reached out & grabbed it, & it turned back into a shepherd’s staff in his hand. 5 “Perform this sign,” the Lord told him. “Then they’ll believe that the Lord, the God of their ancestors - the God of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob - really has appeared to you.” 6 Then the Lord said to Moses, “Now put your hand inside your cloak.” So Moses put his hand inside his cloak, & when he took it out again, his hand was white as snow w/ a severe skin disease. 7 “Now put your hand back into your cloak,” the Lord said. So Moses put his hand back in, & when he took it out again, it was as healthy as the rest of his body. 8 The Lord said to Moses, “If they do not believe you & are not convinced by the first miraculous sign, they’ll be convinced by the second sign. 9 If they don’t believe you or listen to you even after these two signs, then take some water from the Nile River & pour it out on the dry ground. When you do, the water from the Nile will turn to blood on the ground.” 10 *But Moses pleaded w/ the Lord*, “O Lord, I’m not very good w/ words. I never have been, & I’m not now, even though you’ve spoken to me. I get tongue-tied, & 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 w/ you as you speak, & I’ll instruct you in what to say.” 13 *But Moses again pleaded*, “Lord, please! Send anyone else.”

*God says, ‘Moses, it doesn’t matter who you are, it matters who I am!’
“Church, it doesn’t matter who you are, it matters who He is!”*

God says: *I am His child through Jesus. I’m a new person in Christ. My old life is dead & gone. I’m raised up w/ Christ to live a new life. I have what He says I have. I can do what He says I can do. I’m renewed in knowledge according to the image of Jesus. I’m made righteous.*

I'm blessed w/ everything the Kingdom of heaven has to offer. I am healed. My needs are met. I overcome in every area of life. I am more than a conqueror. I am well able for victory. I am fulfilling my destiny in Jesus. My life is a success in Him.

Colossians 2:8 AMP See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy & empty deception [pseudo-intellectual babble], according to the tradition & musings of mere men, following the elementary principles of this world, rather than following the truth - the teachings of Christ. 9 For *in Him* all the fullness of Deity (*the Godhead*) dwells in bodily form, completely expressing the divine essence of God. 10 And *in Him* you have been made complete; achieving spiritual stature *through Christ*, & He is the head over all rule & authority of every angelic & earthly power.

*Only your Creator can accurately identify you.
Jesus says you're: loved, accepted, valuable, precious, & able.*

Let's see ourselves & speak of ourselves from our new identity in Jesus...

"I can't...I am able through Christ"

"I'm too tired...I'm energized & disciplined"

"I'm too dumb...I am wise & I have the mind of Christ"

"I'm overwhelmed...I am an overcomer"

"I'll never be out of debt...I am prosperous & my needs are met"

"I'm not worthy...I am the righteousness of God"

"I'm a failure...I am a new person in Jesus"

Colossians 3:1 AMP If you've been raised *w/ Christ* to a new life, sharing *in His* resurrection from the dead, keep seeking the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind & keep focused *habitually* on the things above, the heavenly things, not on things that are on the earth, which have only temporal value. 3 For you died to this world, & your new, real life is *hidden w/ Christ* in God.

*Lord help me to see myself, not as others define me, but as You say I am.
I am on my way, to my identify in Christ; my true identity in life!*