

Encountering Freedom in 2025 - 2 - UNLOCKING YOUR ORIGINAL DESIGN

I. WE ARE FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE

PSALM 139:13 *For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.*

A. LEARNING WHO WE ARE MADE TO BE

PSALM 139:15 *You know me inside and out, you know every bone in my body; You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something. 16 Like an open book, you watched me grow from conception to birth; all the stages of my life were spread out before you, The days of my life all prepared before I'd even lived one day.*

1. **THE SECRET OF WHO I AM IS ONLY KNOWN BY GOD**
2. **MY LIFE PURPOSE IS WRITTEN IN LANGUAGE ONLY GOD UNDERSTANDS**
3. **INCREASING IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD INCREASES MY UNDERSTANDING OF WHO I AM AND WHAT I AM MADE TO DO**

Prov. 9:10 *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*

B. UNDERSTANDING MY ORIGINAL DESIGN

EPH 2:10 *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.*

1. **ORIGINAL DESIGN** - ALL OF GOD'S CREATIVITY IS INTIMATELY INVOLVED IN DESIGNING WHO YOU ARE AND DEVELOPING WHO YOU ARE BECOMING. Our gifts, our personality, our temperament, our gender all combine to determine how we are designed to glorify God. ***It works best when we are connected to the irreplaceable resource of HOLY SPIRIT so we can experience abundant life and fulfillment***
2. **IDENTITY** - UNDERSTANDING SONSHIP IS KEY TO OUR IDENTITY

ROMANS 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. **15** For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the **Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”** **16** The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, **17** and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, (STRUGGLE MAKES US AN OVERCOMER) that we may also be glorified together.

- **OUR SONSHIP IS ROOTED IN HIS FATHERHOOD - HE CLAIMS US AS HIS OWN. BELONGING IS AT THE HEART OF GOD’S FAMILY AND OUR IDENTITY**
- **THE SECURITY OF OUR IDENTITY IS ESTABLISHED NOT BY OUR ACTIONS OR WORTHINESS BUT BECAUSE OF HIS FAITHFULNESS AND LOVE**
- **OUR INHERITANCE IS RECEIVED through relationship, NOT EARNED through effort**
- **THE ELDER BROTHER’S MISTAKE WAS TO WORK FOR THE THINGS HE HAD ALREADY BEEN FREELY GIVEN.**

Luke 15:31 “And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.

2. **PURPOSE - EVEN THOUGH WE CAN’T EARN OUR PLACE AS SONS, WE ARE MOST FULFILLED WHEN WE HAVE A PURPOSE AND A MISSION TO ACCOMPLISH. **WORK IS NOT OUR IDENTITY BUT IT CAN BE THE SHOWCASE TO DISPLAY WHO WE ARE.****
- **A LARGE PART OF PURPOSE IS PREPARATION**
4. **DESTINY - SOMEDAY WE WILL ALL BE CONFORMED TO HIS IMAGE - ROMANS 8:28-30. *Everything I do has meaning when I do it as a son of God.***
5. **CALLING - WE ALL HAVE AN ASSIGNMENT TO COMPLETE**
- **WE ARE ALL CALLED TO FOLLOW HIM, GLORIFY HIM AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL. “Make your call and election sure” - Peter**

- **WORK IS WHAT WE DO** - IT MIGHT BE OUR CALLING OR A JUST WAY TO FINANCE OUR CALLING (*Vocation*)
- **CALLINGS NEVER CHANGE BUT ASSIGNMENTS OFTEN DO**

II. BELIEVE THAT THE INCREDIBLE PERSON YOU ARE BECOMING IS GOD'S PLAN FOR YOU

A. **JEREMIAH** - *Called as a Prophet to Nations while in Middle School!*

Jer. 1:4 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: **5** "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

Jer. 1:6 Then said I: "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, **I cannot speak, for I am a youth.**" **7** But the LORD said to me: "Do not say, 'I am a youth,' For you shall go to all to whom I send you, And whatever I command you, you shall speak. **8 Do not be afraid of their faces, For I am with you to deliver you,**" says the LORD.

Jer. 1:9 Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

10 See, **I have this day set you over the nations** and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant."

1. **GOD QUALIFIES, PREPARES AND FINANCES HIS SONS**
2. **A CALLING IS NOT PREPARATION. *TIMING* matters**
3. **FAILURE IS OFTEN THE FIRST LESSON. (CANNERY - First Job)**

B. **DAVID** - THE SHEPHERD DESTINED TO BE KING

1Sam. 16:1 Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. **For I have provided Myself a king among his sons.**"

1Sam. 16:6 So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD'S anointed is before Him!" **7** But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. **For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.**"

1Sam. 16:8 So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." **9** Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." **10** Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these." **11** And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" **Then he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep."**

And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here." **12** So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And **the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!"** **13** Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; (JEALOUSY/REJECTION/ ISOLATION IS OFTEN BY-PRODUCT OF CALLING) **and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward.** So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

- **DAVID FILLED MANY ASSIGNMENTS IN HIS LIFE** - shepherd, musician, song writer, worshiper, warrior, priest, king. These were all the roles he filled. **But HIS ORIGINAL DESIGN WAS SEEN in the continuous thread of a heart after God throughout his life. THAT'S WHAT GOD SAW in him from the first**

- C. **JOSEPH** - *Even when I am made for something I still have to be shaped and prepared* in order to do it. JOSEPH HAD A BIG CALL AND BIG DREAMS. **THE CAPACITY OF HIS LIFE WAS ENLARGED THROUGH HIS TESTING** UNTIL HE WAS BIG ENOUGH TO HOLD THE CALL AND FULFILL GOD'S PURPOSE.

Psa. 105:19 *Until the time that his word came to pass, The word of the LORD tested him.*

Gen. 50:20 *But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.*

NO ONE CONTROLS YOUR DESTINY BUT GOD AND YOU THROUGH YOUR CHOICES

III. DON'T BE MIS-LABELED BY THIS WORLD!

THINGS THAT ARE MIS-LABELED ARE OFTEN FILED IN THE WRONG PLACE SO THAT THEY ARE DIFFICULT TO FIND. CLARIFY YOUR

SONSHIP BEFORE YOU EVER TRY TO FIND OUR WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR LIFE.

KNOWING YOUR ORIGINAL DESIGN *WILL HELP YOU DISCERN YOUR LIFE PURPOSE AND HELP YOU RECOGNIZE YOUR CALLING WHEN YOU HEAR IT. Don't confuse how you are made with what you do.*

WE STRUGGLE NOT BECAUSE WE HAVE NO PURPOSE, *BUT BECAUSE WE MAY BE LOOKING IN THE WRONG PLACE FOR IT!*

FALSE LABELS ARE THINGS WE ACCEPT ABOUT OURSELF THAT REALLY LOOK NOTHING LIKE CHRIST

DESTINY ARRIVES WHEN *THE SONS OF GOD OBEY THE CALL OF HEAVEN, FULFILL THEIR ASSIGNMENTS AND DISCOVER THEIR ORIGINAL DESIGN. THEN GOD RECEIVES GLORY AND WE ARE FILLED WITH JOY AND CONTENTMENT.*