

A Christian Identity - Becoming Who You Already Are

There exists much confusion in the minds of many Christians because of the apparent contradiction between who they are because of their relationship with Christ, and what they experience in their daily life.

As people, we have been programed to believe certain things to be true about ourselves whether they are true or not. As Christian, God has declared certain things to be true about us which are true whether we experience them in our lives or not. As people, we have accepted our reason, our emotions, our senses, and our circumstances as our absolute and final authority. As Christians, we are to accept God's Word as our absolute and final authority.

As we are in the process of changing our 'final authority', there will be a time-lag between our recognition of who we really are in Christ and our actually experiencing these new truths in our daily life.

These truths about who you are in Christ will become a reality in your life through a process the Bible calls "renewing the mind". This process is dependent upon, first, the power of God through the working of the Holy Spirit and, secondly, the act of faith on your part. God has given us His Holy Spirit to dwell in us and empower us (Ephesians 5:18), and His Word to direct us (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Our part is to choose (an act of our will) to believe what God's Word says about us and to act upon this truth in our lives.

As Christians, we entered into a new relationship. This relationship guarantees us a new identity. A new identity demands a new experience or lifestyle. It is at this point that for many Christians a dilemma arises. Their experience tends to reflect their old way of life rather than their new identity in Christ. The song (the old life) has ended, but the melody lingers on. Our new identity, through our new relationship with Christ, guarantees a way out of this dilemma. The way out is the process of renewing our minds.

On the other side of this page you will find 3 columns. The first column will reflect the person you may think yourself to be. This old identity comes from your past life, based upon the **PERCEPTION** of reason, emotions, senses, performance and circumstances. The second column reflects what God has declared to be true about you in His Word. It is **TRUTH!** The third column offers **SCRIPTURE** for you to read to give you a foundation for your faith.

It is imperative that you count God's Word as truth. This must become the final authority in your life. The time-lag between your beliefs and your experience will diminish as you begin accepting and standing on God's Word as truth, regardless of your perception. This is a life of faith!

| <u>Perception</u> | <u>Truth</u> | <u>Scripture</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| I am unworthy/unacceptable | I am accepted/worthy | Rom 15:7; Ps 139 |
| I am alone | I am never alone | Heb 13:5b; Rom 8:38-39 |
| I am a failure/inadequate | I am adequate | Pr 3:26, 14:26, 28:1 Heb 10:19; Eph 3:12 |
| I am responsible for my life | God is responsible and Faithful to me | Phil 1:6, 2:13 2 Th3:3; Ps 138:8 |
| I am confused/going crazy | I have the mind of Christ | 1 Cor 2:16; 2 Tim 1:7; Eph 1:17 |
| I am depressed/hopeless | I have hope | Rom 15:13; 5:5; Heb 6:19; Ps 27:13; 31:24 |
| I am not good enough/imperfect | I am perfect in Christ | Heb 10:14; Col 2:10 Eph 2:10 |
| There is nothing special about me | I have been chosen by God | Ps 139; 1 Cor 1:30; 6:11 2 Th 2:13 Phil 4:19 |
| I don't have enough | I have no lack | |
| I am a fearful anxious person | I am free from fear | Ps 34:4; 2 Tim 1:7 1 Pe 5:7; 1 Jn 4:18 |
| I lack faith | I have all the faith I need | Rom 12:3; 10:17 He 12:2 |
| I am a weak person | I am strong in Christ | Dan 11:32; Is 58:11 Phil 4:13 |
| I am defeated | I am victorious | Rom 8:37; 2 Cor 2:14 1 Jn 5:4 |
| I am not very smart | I have God's wisdom | Pr 2:6-7; 1 Cor 1:30 Eph 1:17 |
| I am in bondage | I am free in Christ | Ps 32:7; 2 Cor 3:17 Jn 8:36 |
| I am miserable | I have God's comfort | Jn 16:7, 2 Cor 1:3-4 |
| I have no one who cares for me | I am protected/secure | Ps 32:7; Ps 91 |
| I am unloved | I am very loved | Jn 15:9; Rom 8:38-39 Eph 2:4; 5:1 |
| I am unwanted/ don't belong | I have been adopted by God I am His child | Rom 8:16-17; Gal 4:5 Eph 1:5; 1 Jn 3:1-2 |
| I feel guilty | I am totally forgiven/redeemed | Ps 103:12; Eph 1:7 Col 1:14,20; Heb 10:14 |
| I am a sinner | I am a saint | Rom 3:24; 2 Cor 5:21 1 Cor 1:30; 6:11 |
| I have no strength | I have power in the Holy Spirit | Acts 1:8; Eph 1:19; 3:16 Rom 8:9-11 |
| I feel condemned | I am blameless | Jn 3:18; Rom 8:1; Col 1:22 |

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