God's Identity for You

• Birth Identity: E.g. American, long heritage of Irish Catholics, German heritage, named after your grandmother etc... It is cultural in nature. God appoints the times and places to determine our birth identity (Acts 17:26).

• Spiritual Identity: God infuses an identity into your spirit to bring you into the fullness of your identity in Christ and to propel you into your Kingdom destiny.

Example Jacob:

Isaiah 43:1 "But now, this is what the LORD says, he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: 'Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine".

Example Jesus: Luke 3:22 ""You are my Beloved Son, with you I am well pleased."

Hearing God's voice is crucial in our identity from God.

John 10:3-4 "The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice."

Your perception of your identity is not always the truth, and the truth about your identity is not always your perception.



Solar eclipse: Is this perception of the sun its true identity? This is often how people live in their identity. It's not who they really are. Our identity is being eclipsed and we are reflecting the Lord's glory in a skewed way.

• Scriptures for Kingdom Identity:

1 John 3:1 says "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called **children of God**! And that is what we are!"

Psalm 45:10-11 "Listen, O **daughter**, consider and give ear; forget your people and your father's house. The king is enthralled by your beauty; honor Him, for He is your lord."

1 Peter 2:9 "But you are a **chosen people**, a **royal priesthood**, a **holy nation**, a **people belonging to God**, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all **reflect the Lord's glory**, are **being transformed into his likeness** with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

Colossians 1:13-14 Amplified Bible "[The Father] has delivered and drawn us to Himself out of the control and the dominion of darkness and has **transferred us into the kingdom of the Son** of His love, in whom we have our redemption through His blood, [which means] the forgiveness of our sins."

Identity Bell: See scriptures in handout "Identity Bell"
Choose a scripture; read several times; receive God's truth personally.

Mark Virkler's 4 Keys to Hearing God's Voice:

1)Quiet your heart before the Lord; Psalm 46:10 - Be still (stop striving) and know that I am God

2)Focus on the Lord; Hebrews 12:2 NASB - Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith

3)Listen to Him; it is described as a spontaneous thought that alights upon our mind as my heart is quiet before the Lord

4)Write down the spontaneous flow of thoughts and pictures that come to mind

• Eclipsed (darkened) Identity:

The darkness comes in the form of lies and deceptions. Through our experiences we can believe lies about ourselves or about God. These lies often come in the temptation to believe negative feelings - shame, failure, unworthiness, hopelessness, etc. Satan's name in the Bible is the father of lies (John 8:44).

Stand:

Ephesians 6:11 "Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."

Satan's strategy:

Scheme A: He is trying to rob you of the reflection of God's glory by keeping you from knowing your true identity and destiny. Living out God's destiny for our life

will magnify and glorify the Lord to a greater extent. Therefore it is one of Satan's schemes to keep us from living in it.

Scheme B: He is tempting you to develop wrong thinking about God, which leads to wrong thinking about ourselves which leads to wrong behavior. Wrong belief about God eventually leads to wrong behavior.

Example Eve:

Genesis 3:1-6 ^{"1} Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die." ⁴ "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵"For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Verse 1 Eve's 1st mistake: (consider Genesis 1:26)

Verse 2 Eve's 2nd mistake:

Verse 3 Eve's 3rd mistake:

<u>Verse 4-5 Eve's 4th mistake</u>: (consider schemes of lies)

Verse 6 Eve's 5th mistake:

Believing a lie \rightarrow empowering the enemy in our lives Believing truth \rightarrow empowering God in our lives

• Example Gideon:

Judges 6:12-16 ¹² "When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior." ¹³ "Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, 'Did not the Lord bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the Lord has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian."

¹⁴ The Lord turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?" ¹⁵ "Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family." ¹⁶The Lord answered, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive."

Verse 13, 15 Identity from the world:

Lie about God:

Lie about himself:

Verse 12, 14, 16 Identity from God:

Whose voice are you listening to? The one we listen to will influence how we see our identity.

Example Moses: (consider Exodus 2:12, 13; 3:10; 4:10)

Identity from the world:

Identity from God:

Your true Christ identity is already deep within you. It is who God created you to be.

 Discovering your true Identity Two things you need to believe to discover your true identity:

a)

Ephesians 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." Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

b)_____

Isaiah 43:1 "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

Jesus Command: Repent and Believe

Mark 1:15 Jesus said, "The time has come; the kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

 \rightarrow Repent = "metanoeo" means:

 \rightarrow Jesus is here, the Kingdom of God has come near. We can repent from the lies (change our thinking), and believe the truth.

Identity Prayer

a) Dealing with False Identity

"Father God, in the name of the true Lord Jesus, the Risen One come in the flesh, what are the false identities I have believed about myself and I have been living from? What are the names that have been given to me by the enemy, the world or myself?"

Take a few moments to listen and write them down.

Prayer:

"Lord, when was the 1st time that I received that identity?"

Repent:

"Father God, in the name of the risen Lord Jesus, I confess that I have believed the lie of the enemy that I am ______. (Tell him the false identity you believed) Lord, I fully release this lie to you, casting off this false identity to you." Use your holy imagination to see these false identities released to Jesus on the cross.

Receive God's forgiveness:

"Lord, thank you for your forgiveness. I fully receive Christ's completed work for me on the cross."

Like a gift on the table - we already have full forgiveness in Christ, it is ours! Receive it!

Release forgiveness:

To anyone that you need to forgive in connection with this false identity, "Father God, in the name of the risen Lord Jesus, I release ______ (the person being forgiven) to you in forgiveness for committing the sin of ______ (be specific) against me."

Imagine giving this person and their sin against you to Jesus on the cross, releasing them in forgiveness and canceling (cutting off) their sin against you.

Spiritual Release:

"Father, in the name of the risen Lord Jesus, I ask that you would release me from any authority the enemy has had in my life as a result of these false identities. Lord, take away any negative actions that grew out of these false identities. Restore anything that I have lost through these false beliefs. Thank-you Jesus, that you are my redeemer. Thank you that you have taken death from me and have given me life instead."

b) Praying for True Identity

Replace:

"Now Lord, I desire to know how you see me and accept the identity you have given me. What is your identity for me? How do you see me? Who do you say I am? What do you call me?"

"In exchange for this wrong belief, what do you want me to know? What is your truth about me?"

Take a few moments to listen and write down what you hear. Remember it is often the first thing that comes to your mind. It can be a picture, a sense, or a word. It is that spontaneous thought that alights upon you mind as you focus on Jesus.

Also you can take a moment to recall your identity God was highlighting in Scripture from the Identity Bell.

Receive:

"Father God, I receive your identity for me of ______ and I embrace the way you see me. I choose to put my trust in you and believe who you say I am. Thank you Lord!"

Understand: "What do you want me to know about this identity?"

THE BELL

I KNOW WHO I AM I am God's child (John 1:12) I am Christ's friend (John 15:15) I am united with the Lord (1 Cor. 6:17) I am bought with a price(1 Cor. 6:19-20) I am a saint (set apart for God) (Eph. 1:1) I am a personal witness of Christ (Acts 1:8) I am the salt & light of the earth (Matt.5:13-14) I am a member of the body of Christ(1 Cor. 12:27) I am free forever from condemnation (Rom. 8: 1-2) I am a citizen of Heaven. I am significant (Phil. 3:20) I am free from any charge against me (Rom. 8:31-34) I am a minister of reconciliation for God (2Cor.5:17-21) I have access to God through the Holy Spirit (Eph. 2:18) I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realms (Eph. 2:6) I cannot be separated from the love of God (Rom.8:35-39) I am established, anointed, sealed by God (2 Cor.1:21-22) I am assured all things work together for good (Rom 8: 28) I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit (John 15:16) I may approach God with freedom and confidence (Eph. 3:12) I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13) I am the branch of the true vine, called to abide in Him (John 15:1-5) I am God's temple (1 Cor. 3: 16). I am complete in Christ (Col. 2: 10) I am hidden with Christ in God (Col. 3:3). I have been justified (Romans 5:1) I am God's co-worker (1 Cor. 3:9; 2 Cor. 6:1). I am God's workmanship (Eph. 2:10) I am confident that the good work God began in me, He will indeed complete (Phil. 1:6) I have been redeemed and forgiven (Col.1:14). I have been adopted as God's child (Eph.1:5) I belong to God Do you know who you are!?