

Help! I'm Having an Identity Crisis

Are you struggling to find the peace of God and His purpose for your life? The answer to realizing your potential lies in understanding who you are in Christ

Do you struggle with feeling unworthy? Do you wonder about your purpose in life?

Do you feel as if you're not growing spiritually?

You're not alone—millions of believers feel the same way. Unfortunately, many of them will never experience a breakthrough and become mature in their faith because they lack a proper understanding of their essential identity in Christ. But you don't have to settle for something less than your full potential in the kingdom of God.

First John 3:2 says: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is" (KJV, emphasis added).

It is hard to avoid the noticeable tension between these two phrases: "now are we the sons of God" and "it doth not yet appear." John is showing us that our identity is a settled fact, but our spiritual maturity is yet to be determined. We are sons of God on a journey to becoming fully matured.

The new-birth experience is the defining moment in a person's

life. Following the miracle of regeneration, there is nothing you can do to become more of a son of God than you already are.

You can become a mature son. You can become an obedient son. You can become a faithful son. But you are already a son of God.

Consider the process of being born to your physical parents. Your gender was determined at the moment of conception. Throughout

“Woman looking down SS26062” your life, you can choose educational, emotional and physical activities that will enhance your masculinity or your femininity, but there is no activity that will alter your essential identity. Your essential identity was determined by God, programmed into your genes and revealed at birth.

Many Christians are engaged in a life-or-death struggle to find their identity. But God has already deposited everything in you, through His incorruptible seed, that you will ever need to become who you already are in Christ. This incorruptible seed lives and abides within us, continually growing and bearing eternal fruit.

Second Peter 1:3 says: “As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness” (NKJV). What do you presently need to be confident in your essential identity? What do you need to succeed in overcoming every challenge to your destiny?

The answer is already within you. The key to your success in life is contained in the seed of God’s incorruptible Word,

which exists within your spirit.

Have you ever stopped to realize that the only aspect of creation that struggles with its identity is mankind? The birds, bees, dogs and fleas do not give the issue of identity a second thought. Have you ever observed an apple sapling struggling with an identity crisis, desperate to become an apple tree? Certainly not!

The genetic structure of that apple tree is destined for one thing: producing fruit after its own kind. The destiny is in the seed. The “guidance system” of the genetic structure relieves the plant kingdom, as well as the whole of creation, from stressing over being something other than what it really is. With the exception of mankind, God’s entire kingdom is at peace with its inherent design and ultimate destiny.

Time to Grow Up

God desires for us to grow spiritually until we reach maturity. This journey is not complete until the line between us and Jesus becomes indivisible—until we live like Jesus, talk like Jesus, respond like Jesus and love like Jesus. And the wonderful thing about this is that we have all of God’s grace at our disposal.

But why do so many people say the sinner’s prayer, walk away from the altar and never go on to discipleship? The primary reason is because they have never been shown the value of growing up into Christ in all things.

There are many reasons we have been called to grow spiritually, but the foremost reason is this: Only the fully

matured son can inherit everything the Father has willed to him. Only as we mature is our inheritance released to us.