***"The unexamined life is not worth living." Socrates***

## Introduction

*Only let us live up to what we have already attained. Philippians 3:16*

If you are in Christ Jesus, you are whole. No matter what you think or have been told, you are whole; there is no brokenness in you. Christ has made you complete. You do not have to wait or work for wholeness, you are wholly restored the moment you say yes to Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Your focus should then be on beginning to recognize and transform those behaviors and mindsets which are unbecoming to the life which has already been given to you. Throughout this teaching, the Lord will reveal to you those areas in your life which do not line up with your identity in Him.

*Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 2 Corinthians 5:17*

The goal of this teaching is to, not only solidify your identity in Christ, but to assist in discovering the destiny and greater purpose to which you have been called, and to train up leaders in order to restore God's dominion upon the earth. Our intention is to help you identify, answer and engage in the "Why am I here?" question, which every person asks within their lifetime. The foundational ideas taught from here on out are based upon the Holy Bible, which we believe is the inspired word of God, and the Seven Mountain Mandate teaching.

*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

The Seven Mountain Mandate is based on the premise that within a society there are seven distinct areas which influence its culture. Whoever is at the top of these mountains, in decision making positions, controls how they operate, directing the societal influence; either positively or negatively. The mountains, or pillars, are: Government, Education, Family, Religion, Business, Arts and Entertainment, and Media. Though extremely instrumental, they are all subject to the Kingdom of God mountain, which ultimately controls everything. We are commissioned, as Christians, to operate in excellence, take dominion over, and bring the presence of God into the mountain/s to which we are called.

*For He did not subject to angels the world to come, concerning which we are speaking. But one has testified somewhere, saying, "What is man, that You remember him? Or the son of man, that You are concerned about him? You have made him for a little while lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, and have appointed him over the works of Your hands; You have put all things in subjection under his feet." For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him. Hebrews 2:5-8*

Since the creation of Adam and Eve, humanity has been at war with the principalities who rebelled against God Himself. Through the slightest deception, the serpent in the garden has found our weaknesses and has used them against us in order to keep us separated from our two God-given tasks: take dominion over the earth and walk in fellowship with Him.

> *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." Genesis 1:26*

> *"For God is faithful through whom you were called into Fellowship with His Son Christ Jesus." 1 Corinthians 1:9*

How many of us have called Eve a fool, declared that we would never have listened to the serpent or felt we could resist the temptation that was presented to her? The truth is, we replicate her same folly each and every time we doubt our worth, abilities, greatness, power, or simply fail to live up to that which we have already attained: wholeness. God clearly defines who we are, and have been created to be, throughout the pages of His written word to us. Every time we doubt, deny or live contrary to His definition of us, we are no different than Eve and eat that same fruit of deception. We have been created in the image of God, tasked with taking dominion of the earth, possess the same power that rose Jesus from the grave and ordained to go and spread the Good News to every tribe, tongue and nation. It is time to stop calling God a liar, through our doubts and unbelief, and begin walking in the greatness of who we are in Christ Jesus.

In order to have victory against our enemy, we must recognize his strategy. There are eight main tactics which the enemy chooses to keep us from walking in the fullness of who we are in Christ Jesus. They are:

1. He questions your authority.

2. He makes accusations against you and your past.

3. He ridicules your efforts.

4. He uses discouragement/demoralization to keep you from operating in your calling.

5. He tries to keep you in a state of confusion.

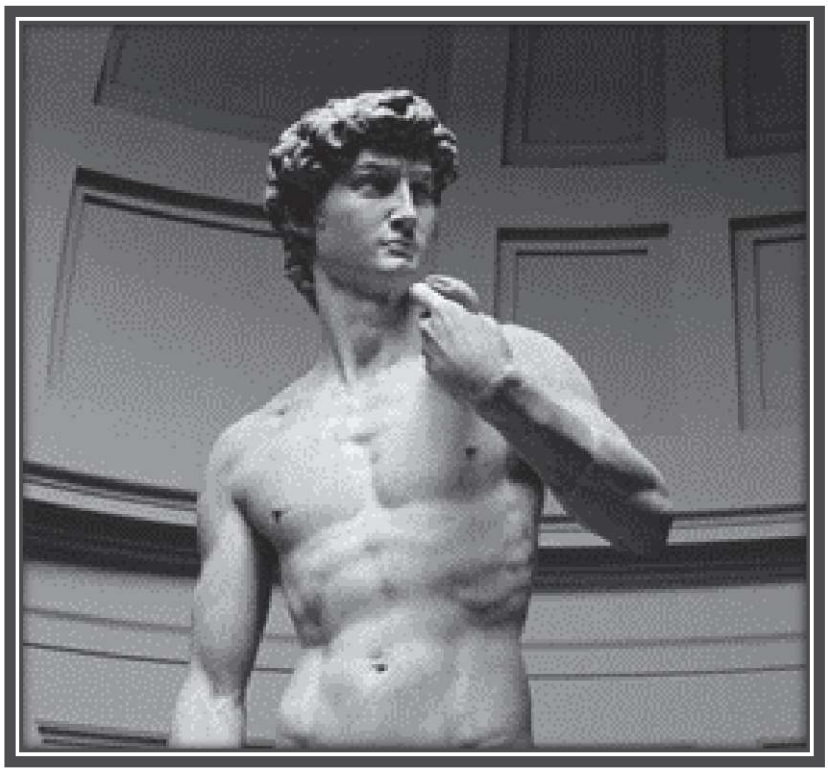
6. He tries to bring out complaining.

7. He uses fear to keep you paralyzed. *This is one of his greatest weapons against you!

8. He desires to keep you in a constant state of fatigue in order to wear you down.

Recognize that the battle is to keep you from fulfilling your purpose on this earth. If you are not determined, resolute and focused on accomplishing your given task, the enemy wins and you have forfeited the victory which was already yours.

It is time to discover how God sees you: His masterpiece.



# Identity

*For as he thinks within himself, so he is. Proverbs 23:7*

Before we delve into discovering our identity, you must take a moment to give yourself permission to receive all that the Lord is about to reveal to you. Too often we hear truth that is applicable to us, yet do not allow ourselves to trust it for our own life. Give yourself permission to be open to, receive, learn and gratefully accept the blessings which are meant for you.

> *"Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall." Matthew 7:24-27*

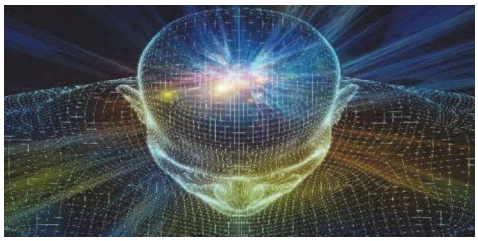
> *"God is not a man, that He should lie." Numbers 23:19a*

Establishing the proper foundation and unshakeable framework upon which all ideas, truths and key topics discussed from here on out will be built upon, is critical to the success of your growth. God is trustworthy and therefore, His words are true and reliable. If there is not a clear-cut reference and fundamental understanding, any, if not all, forward movement from this point on will be built upon a substandard foundation, which will not hold up under the storms, trials and obstacles you will encounter during your journey through life. Discovering and instituting your true identity now will give you the proper base upon which to stand, as well as, the ability to scrutinize all information against it in order for you to distinguish truth from lies and how to proceed with the new information.

**Fundamental Identity Markers**

Though we have all been created very differently, each with our own unique traits and characteristics, there are four distinct truths which apply to each and every one of us on a very real, deep and personal level. The fundamental markers for every human being, regardless of whether you accept these truths or not, are:

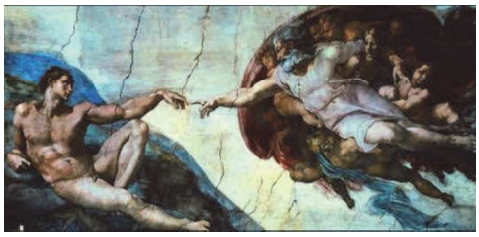
**1. You are an eternal being.**



Your body will perish, but your soul remains forever; whether it be in Heaven or Hell.

*When the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed—for our testimony to you was believed. 2 Thess 1:7b-10*

**2. You are a child of God.**



You have been created in the image of God and your very breath was given by Him.

*God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:27*

*Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. Genesis 2:7*

*"And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me," says the Lord Almighty. 2 Corinthians 6:18*

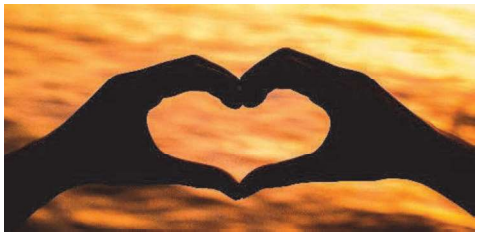
**3. You are forgiven.**

Jesus paid the debt for all people, restoring what had been lost in the Garden of Eden, allowing, once again, direct communion with God. You have the choice to accept that forgiveness, but regardless of your choice, it is there none-the-less.

*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9*

*As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. Psalm 103:12*

***4.*** **You are loved with an everlasting unconditional love.**



There is nothing you can do to earn or separate yourself from that love. You are cherished.

*"I will never leave you, nor forsake you." Hebrews 13:5*

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. John 3:16-17*

Before moving onward, we must take some time to identify what love is, based on the level and meaning that God has established.

> *Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a*
>
> *Love is from God. 1 John 4:7a*
>
> *God is love. 1 John 4:16b*
>
> *In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation (atoning sacrifice) for our sins. 1 John 4:10*

There is never manipulation, hidden agendas or guilt found within God's standard and meaning of love; it is always true, genuine and of pure motive. Anything which has tried to call itself love, but does not come into alignment with God's standard is a counterfeit. Beloved, remember and be aware that a wolf in sheep's clothing is still a wolf! The enemy will disguise himself in the clothes of "love", attempting to manipulate your idea of what love is supposed to look like. Therefore, if the action/fruit of what is being presented as love falls short of God's definition, reject that lie and look to God's example! If the enemy can distort your definition of love, he has distorted your definition of God; for God is love. Of course, we all fall short in respect to the truth of His standard, however, we should continue to aspire to the level He has established as perfect love.

**Individual Markers**

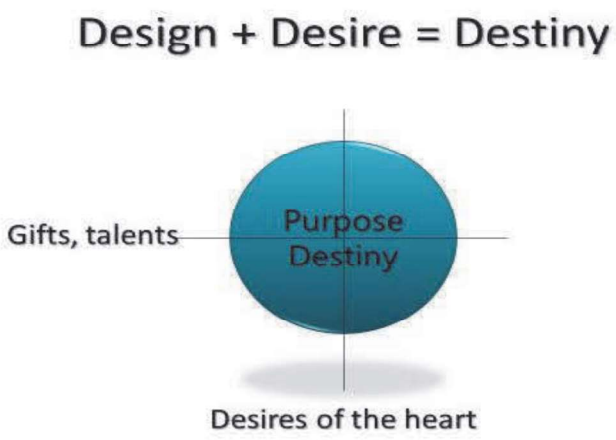
Too many of us walk through life unable to answer the questions, "Who am I?" and "Why am I here?" We exist in our circumstances, unable to fully engage, because the completed picture of who we truly are and why we were created continues to elude us. By prayer, honest introspection, evaluation and assessment, we can solve the puzzle of our identity and purpose, enabling us to understand who we are, why we are here and what we are to accomplish in life.

Though the four fundamental truths apply equally to each and every human being, they are only part of what makes up your identity. Every person has been given a specific set of skills, abilities and proclivities in order to carry out their given purpose here on Earth. The combination of the four fundamental truths, coupled with the character traits specific to you, are what make up your identity. Too often we dismiss our unique makeup in order to conform to an image we were never meant to emulate. Your persona, the encompassing components of your identity, name and how you are seen by heaven, are uniquely designed to form the incredible miracle which is you. You have been masterfully made, handcrafted by God Himself, and living contrary to who you are is grossly diminishing that truth.

You have permission to live the life that is you, express yourself as you are so inclined and no longer need to conform yourself to the ridicule, opinions and perceptions of others; be free to be you, you are amazing!

> *Then Moses called Bezalel and Oholiab and every skillful person in whom the LORD had put skill, everyone whose heart stirred him, to come to the work to perform it. Exodus 36:2*

Recognizing where your heart truly lies is a key component to discovering, not only your identity, but the path to your destiny as well. God has already given you a place in the future which aligns your purpose, design and desires in order for your destiny to be carried out and fulfilled. Destiny is something you must discover. Understand that each part of your journey is a necessary piece to its fulfillment. When your gifts, talents and inclinations line up with the desires of your heart, therein lies your purpose/destiny.




> *Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "See, I have called by name Bezalel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. I have filled him with the Spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship, to make artistic designs for work in gold, in silver, and in bronze, and in the cutting of stones for settings, and in the carving of wood, that he may work in all kinds of craftsmanship. And behold, I Myself have appointed with him Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan; and in the hearts of all who are skillful I have put skill, that they may make all that I have commanded you." Exodus 31:1-6*

> *And He has filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding and in knowledge and in all craftsmanship; to make designs for working in gold and in silver and in bronze, and in the cutting of stones for settings and in the carving of wood, so as to perform in every inventive work. He also has put in his heart to teach, both he and Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. He has filled them with skill to perform every work of an engraver and of a designer and of an embroiderer, in blue and in purple and in scarlet material, and in fine linen, and of a weaver, as performers of every work and makers of designs. Exodus 35:31-35*

Provided is a list of questions in order to help you discover what your gifts and talents are. When answering these questions, do not be afraid to write down what comes to your mind or the desires deep within your heart. Your goal is to find the answer which resonates the loudest within your heart, not to give the answer which you think you should based on the opinions of others. Get into a positive mindset, eliminate guilt and avoid any preconceived ideas or biases. Take away all distractions and pray for clarity before answering the following questions.

1. What are at least five things I love to do?

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2. What are at least five things I am good at or comes easily to me?

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3. What are at least five things I have wanted to be in my life that I have never been?

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4. What are at least five things I have wanted to do, but have never done?

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5. What are at least five things I have wanted to experience? Learn? See?

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6. If time, money or ability were not a factor, how would I spend my time?

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_____

7. What am I passionate about?

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