

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. John 10:10 (ESV)

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. 1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

A couple of things to recognize:

- We have to be aware of the **tricks** of the enemy.
- ...We are certainly not unaware of his (Satan's) schemes. 2 Corinthians 2:11

And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, for anger gives a foothold to the devil. Ephesians 4:26-27 (NLT)

• We can't **fight** what we don't **face**.

So give yourselves completely to God. <u>Stand against the devil</u>, and the devil will run from you. James 4:7 (NCV) ...<u>Stand firm against him</u>, and be strong in your faith. 1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

God is strong, and he wants you strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the Devil throws your way. This is no weekend war that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and all his angels. Ephesians 6:10-12

- Your identity is the lens through which you see and value yourself.
- What about your life establishes its greatest value?
- Who we identify as also reveals the **culture** we identify with.
- The culture we embrace **shapes** who we become.

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:2 (NLT)

Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God... Romans 12:2 (MSG)

- We become who God created us to be as we embrace God's identity for us.
- What you were may **describe** you but it doesn't have to **define** you.

Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people. Once you received no mercy; now you have received God's mercy. 1 Peter 2:10 (NLT)

A Starting point to a new identity:

• We have to **unlearn** what keeps us tied to our old identity.

A lie believed as **truth** can affect us as if it were **true**.

• We have to learn to accept an identity that doesn't seem to fit us.

For YOU are God's masterpiece. He has created YOU anew in Christ Jesus, so YOU can do the good things he planned for YOU long ago. Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27 (NLT)

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for... Ephesians 1:11-12 (Msg)

God's Love makes a relationship possible.

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Romans 5:8 (NLT) It makes no difference who you are or where you're from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open. Acts 10:35 (MSG)

Relationship with Jesus changes your identity.

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Ephesians 1:11 (Msg)

How to embrace a new identity:

- I have to decide the culture I want to define me.
- My value does not come from accomplishments or others but only from God's love.
- I stop believing the <u>lies</u> that <u>Satan</u> feeds me.
- I start believing who God says I am.

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. Hebrews 4:14-16 (NIV)



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Do you believe you are aware of the tricks of the enemy? What does that means? What are some of his tricks?
- · Your identity is the lens through which you see and value yourself. Who are you first and foremost?
- Would you say you see yourself through God's lens or another lens? Explain.
- What does the statement mean: "A lie believed as truth can affect us as if it were true"? Have you ever believed a lie long enough that it became part of your life?
- What are some things we might have to unlearn that keeps us tied to an old identity?
- What are some things that God says about us that we might need to accept, even though they don't seem to fit us?
- Why is it so important that we seek to discover God's love for us? If we viewed ourselves the way God views us, how would we change?
- · How does relationship with Jesus change our identity?
- · How can you change the lens by which you see and value yourself?
- · Why is it important to decide on a culture we want to define us? Have you decided?

For more Talks, visit us at: fresnoquest.com

Get connected! Try out a Connection Group.



Information available in the courtyard.

- You are God's possession. 1 Peter 2:9
- You are chosen by God. Ephesians 1:3-4
- You are a friend of God . (John 15:15)
- You are loved. (1 John 4:19, 4:10, 3:16, Romans 5:8, 8:35-39)
- You are irreplaceable. 1 Thessalonians 1:4
- You are worth dying for. (1 John 3:16, Romans 5:7-9)
- You are forgiven. (Ephesians 1:7, 1 John 1:9, Romans 8:1, 33-39)
- You are His child. (1 John 3:1, Galatians 3:26)
- You are secured for eternity. (2 Corinthians 1:22, John 10:28-29)
- You are the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21
- You are set free from the power of sin. (Romans 6:18, Galatians 5:1)
- You are precious to Him. (Isaiah 43:4)
- You are set apart. (John 15:16, 19, I Peter 2:9)
- You are a citizen of heaven. Philippians 3:20
- You are a child of God and an heir of God. Galatians 4:7
- You are an overcomer. (1 John 5:4, 1 John 4:4)



Doing life together

Today's Talk..



"OUR TRUE IDENTITY"