



WHO AM I AND WHERE AM I GOING?

Who am I and where am I going are probably the most important questions you will ever ask yourself. Your identity is the foundation for your actions. If you don't understand who you are, you won't understand where you are going. And, although many people don't understand this connection and how much a meaningful life is unless you understand your own identity. In other words, "Why am I here?" and "Where am I going?" are useless questions if you can't answer "Who am I?"

So, Who Are You? What is your identity? For the answer, let's consider Jesus himself. Think about it. Jesus never struggled with anxiety. He never saw a counselor for depression. He never stressed out. Calm. Relaxed. Self-controlled. All words that described the human Jesus. How did Jesus relax with the weight of humanity on his shoulders (literally)? One word...IDENTITY. Jesus knew who he was even before he was born. He knew where he came from and where he was going. Every man or woman in the history of the world is created in God's image. We are created in the image of God. We are created out of and to love. We are created to learn. We are created to....create. Passion. Excellence. Grace. Truth. Beauty. All of these things form our identity. Because our identity is the foundation for our purpose and assignment, Satan wants to destroy it. Satan knows if he clouds our identity, we won't live a meaningful life. (This is happening at a greater pace today than ever before.)

Purpose? Your purpose is where your deepest passions intersect your greatest strengths. While your identity isn't a discovery process (you don't get to choose your identity...you just get to elect whether you live from it), your purpose is also unique. Your purpose is where your greatest strengths intersect your greatest passions. Your purpose is NOT your assignment and it is NOT your identity. Your purpose excites you, stirs your heart, and gives you energy. Your purpose is larger than you. You won't discover your purpose if you don't take risks. We live in an age of purposelessness. And where purposelessness is present, addictions are rampant. Few things are more miserable than settling for average or mediocre. Our human soul is at risk at this point.

There is a void created by purposelessness, and something must fill it. So, if your life is void of quality relationships, you run the risk of turning to alcohol, pornography, medication, or drugs. This is, unfortunately, even true for Christians. God's people SHOULD lead the way when it comes to living with purpose. But every Sunday, church buildings are filled with many Christians, bored with God and content with a mediocre existence. This is where the Holy Spirit enters in and makes a difference in our purpose for living and our real identity comes out. With the Holy Spirit we will find out who we are where we are going?

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