



Emotional Health & Spiritual Growth



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“He heals the brokenhearted, And binds up their wounds.” (Ps. 147:3)

Your New Identity

(Knowing who you are in Christ is the key to spiritual victory)

Happy New Year!

Motto:

“See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.” (1 John 3:1-2)

You have forgotten who you are!

In 1994, Disney released an animated movie called The Lion King. My wife and I took our children to watch the movie. The story revolves around Simba, a lion cub and heir to the throne. Simba was tricked into thinking he killed his father. As a result of the tragedy in his life Simba abandons his identity as the future King and runs far away.

A wise monkey, Rafiki, convinces Simba, now an adult lion, to face his past, no matter how painful is it. He told Simba, “Oh yes, the past can hurt. But from the way I see it, you can either run from it, or... learn from it.” A radical change takes place in Simba’s heart after a mysterious conversation with his father. The dialogue between father and son was an absolute game changer for Simba. His father, Mufasa, told his son, “Simba, you have forgotten me.” Simba tried to defend himself, “No! How could I?” Then his father told his son these heart penetrating words: “You have forgotten who you are, and so forgotten me. Look inside yourself, Simba. You are more than what you have become.”

More often than not, we, as Christians do not know our true identity. We run away forgetting our calling and destiny. As

“You are the salt of the earth.”

“You are the light of the world.” (Matthew 5:13,14)

Simba was challenged to face his past in spite of the hurt, we too have to look inside and rediscover our identity.

Who are you? Who I am?

Who are you? Who am I? These are simple questions but

when it comes to our spiritual identity these questions are not that simple. Let me ask you again: Who are you? Or, I ask myself: Who am I? My immediate response would be based on my earthly and cultural roots.



- I am the son of my parents (Dumitru and Paraschiva).
- I am the husband of Elena.
- I am the father of Evelina, Timotei, Dorian, and Cristina.
- I am a former engineer.
- I am a minister and a writer.
- Etc.

Do you see what I did? I addressed the inquiry about my identity using various roles of my earthly existence defined by the culture: family of origin, education, type of work, etc.

How would you answer that question?

How about your spiritual identity? How about my spiritual identity? In other words: Who am I in Christ? That is a tough question, isn't it? I agree. I hope that this article will address this question.

Looking closely at 1 John 3:1-2, we can see clearly that, first and foremost, we are God's children. This in itself speaks volumes. More importantly it is indicating that we are God's children right now, not sometime in the future. Hear John's words:

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"Beloved, now we are children of God." This truth and spiritual reality should be the starting point of our new identity. It starts with God's love, the heart of Jesus, and the testimony of the Holy Spirit. Praise the Lord!

"Beloved, now we are children of God."

Let's look closely at Colossians 3:3-4, *"For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory."* Oh, if only the people of God would realize they have access to the very life of Christ. It is theirs right here and now. Christ gave His very own life to you and me individually. I hope you see this in the Bible and pray that you realize the implications of this truth!

'Who are you?' is the hardest question. We probably never took the time to analyze our identity through the lens of Scripture alone. Therefore, our natural tendency is to define and establish our identity, personal image, and self-esteem based on: what we do, where we come from, possessions, reputation, education, and how many letters we have accumulated after our name.

I am a
CHILD
 of God.
 I know it. I live it. I love it.

In order to understand our new identity we have to learn and know the right identifiers outside of ourselves. My dear friend, the aspect of spiritual identity in the believer's life is equally important as the issue of victory. Every believer wants to have spiritual victory in his or her life. Every believer needs to know who he/she is in Christ.

A new creation

As a result of the amazing work that took place at the Cross, every human being qualifies for a complete make-over. Sin was and is a terrible thing done against God. Sin has terrible consequences. The good news is that the Son of God is the propitiation for our sins (1 John 2:2). Whoever responds in faith to the message of salvation has the opportunity to be reconciled to God (Romans 5:10). Not only reconciliation, but through Jesus Christ he or she is declared righteous (Romans 5:19). Moreover, through the power of the Holy Spirit, whoever accepts God's solution for salvation becomes a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Let me briefly explain the meaning of new creation. When, by faith, you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior (Romans 10:9-10), the Holy Spirit regenerated you – created a new spirit in you (John 3:3,6, Titus 3:5), baptized you in Christ (Romans 6:3), supernaturally immersed you into God's Church (1 Corinthians 12:13), and united you with God (1 Corinthians 6:17). After you are born again, God is committed to sanctify you entirely: spirit, soul and body (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24).

From now on, the most humble thing you can do is to agree with the Word of God regarding who you are. As Christ disciples, let's affirm and declare these 12 powerful truths:

- I am a new creature in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- I am God's masterpieces (poem, unique art) (Ephesians 2:10)
- I am a partaker of His divine nature (2 Peter 1:3-4)
- I am God's child, born again of the incorruptible seed of the Word of God (1 Peter 1:23)
- I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me (1 John 5:18)
- I have the righteousness of Christ (Philippines 3:9)
- I am alive with Christ (Ephesians 2:5)
- I am holy and without blame before Him in love (Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 1:16)
- I am the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19)
- I can do all things through Christ Jesus (Philippines 4:13)
- I am an ambassador for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20)
- When He returns, I will be like Him (1 John 3:1-3)

This is your new IDENTITY. When the enemy whispers into your ears, "Don't trust the Word of God", tell him out loud – "Depart from me Satan, I am a precious child of God and there is nothing that can separate me from my Father's love (Romans 8:39)."

Happy New Year!

With LOVE in Christ's Service,

Faly Faduna

Spiritual Mentor / Life Coach

P.S.: Thank you for your continuous prayers and financial support! *"The one who is taught the word is to share all good things with the one who teaches him."* (Gal. 6:6). If you are looking for personal & personalized one-on-one spiritual life coaching sessions contact us immediately.