

## TRUE/FALSE IDENTITIES

### VICTIM OR OVERCOMER?

Freedom Ministry is not easy. Anyone who thinks otherwise may be in for disappointment or frustration! When the Lord begins to show us the broken areas in our lives, things may seem to get worse before they get better. Like the surgeon who cuts unbroken flesh, the Bible also cuts us deeply in places we did not know we were broken. Because we are not anesthetized, it can be painful.

Often we choose flight over fight. Often we want to blame others for our pain. Many times, Christ followers assume a “victim mentality,” based on a negative response to their unhealed emotional and mental pain.

How can you know if you “play the victim?” (*Victims don’t realize they’re victims, which is part of Satan’s deception.*)

### ARE YOU READY?

**1. They elevate their feelings and emotions above Scripture. In so doing, they can rationalize anything—any behavior or any decisions they make.**

- Have you ever used Scripture to correct someone when you emotionally felt they were wrong?
- When in conflict with someone, have you quoted Scripture to prove they were wrong?
- When in conflict with someone, have you ever put your interpretation on a Scripture to prove you were right?

**2. They regard those who challenged their assertions as “unspiritual,” not Spirit-led.**

- Do I understand that it’s my soul that gets offended, not my spirit?
- When I get my feelings hurt, do I sometimes label it as a “check in my spirit?”

**3. Christians who play the victim can’t develop mental toughness. They bail out when things get difficult, leaving others to pick up the slack.**

- When I find myself in a difficult relational situation, do I find myself wanting to quit or isolate myself?

- Am I mature enough to receive correction/direction that is given in the correct manner?

**4. People who play the victim seem compassionate, but can become mean when their ideological crutch is challenged.**

- When I tell somebody I love them, do I really mean it when I'm not with them or when they later hurt my feelings?
- When someone challenges what I feel or believe, do I feel anger rise up within me?

**5. Victims are always looking for an Oppressor. When one oppressor is vanquished, they will find another one. Or subconsciously make a non-oppressor into an oppressor, to serve their need to play the victim role.**

- Do I look for others to side with me or to support me in my pain?
- When someone disagrees with me, do I secretly look to him as "my enemy?"

**6. Victims often see themselves as "being wronged," when in reality, they are not.**

- Do I feel that I've received the "short end of the stick" most of my life?
- Do I often feel like other people get the benefit of the doubt when I don't?

**7. Victims also tend to anticipate "being wronged," and mistrust good people who love them and want to bless them.**

- Is it hard for me to trust people?
- Is there a pattern in my life of different people hurting me in similar ways?

**8. Victims can never lead anything, at least not for very long.**

- Is it hard for me to be in charge of something for a long time and feel like it was successful?
- Have you ever asked yourself, "Why do other people not want to have a long-term relationship with me?"

**WHAT IS MY INVISIBLE IMPRINT?**

Definition: How people see you, or the first thing they think when they hear your name. It's the vibe we give off. Usually, we don't see ourselves as others do. And many of us do not see ourselves as God sees us.

We all have an identity—something that describes us; something that envelops us.

Each of us has an identity of who we are—far beyond the name on our nametags.

Our titles, the work we do, our families, our hobbies, the ways we interact with people—these shape our identity.

But maybe God designed an identity that you don't know yet.

The only way to know that is to hear from God. He wants to break other identities, false identities, and speak a new name over you.

Every one of us has been called a name that stuck with us. Some were said in anger, some in jest. But God **never** spoke this name over you. The power of life and death are in the tongue. When you agree to those names, in reality, they identify you.

God wants to speak a dramatic truth over you. He wants to tell you the name that HE has given to you. A name designed specifically for YOU.

Names and titles are important to us in the way that we live. Without a name, things do not exist for the purpose they were designed.

God has a language—and a name for us. It's not coincidental. It carries a weight and meaning to it.

*Abram*=exalted Father, yet he could not bear children. God added to his name:  
*Abraham*=exalted Father of many nations. And this was before he saw with his eyes what had been said over him by the Father.

Do YOU want to hear God? Do you mean that? Or do you want someone else to tell you what God says?

We don't do the things we know we should do, and we allow that to keep us from boldly going into His presence. Our sin doesn't keep us from God. He already dealt with our sin. He bore our sin on the cross. It's our disobedience, our fear, our insecurity, our pain, our false filters, our disassociation or denial of the pain that keeps us from hearing from God.

**THE THREE MOST COMMON WAYS THAT WE HEAR GOD:**

1. Words that come to mind.
2. Images that come to mind.
3. Impressions that we sense from God.

**HOW CAN WE KNOW THAT WHAT WE HEAR IS FROM GOD?**

1. It lines up with Scripture.
2. It produces the fruit of the Spirit (peace, kindness, joy...)
3. It produces freedom.

**WHAT DOES GOD SAY ABOUT YOU?**

*MY DECLARATION by Sarah Bush*

I DECLARE that I have the grace I need for today. I am full of power, strength, and determination. Nothing I face will be too much for me. I will overcome every obstacle, outlast every challenge, and come through every difficulty better off than I was before. This is my declaration.

I DECLARE that it is not too late to accomplish everything God has placed in my heart. I have not missed my window of opportunity. God has moments of favor in my future. He is preparing me right now because He is about to release a special grace to help me accomplish that dream. This is my time. This is my moment. I receive it today! This is my declaration.

I DECLARE that I am grateful for who God is in my life and for what He's done. I will not take for granted the people, the opportunities, and the favor He has blessed me with. I will look at what is right and not what is wrong. I will thank Him for what I have and not complain about what I don't have. I will see each day as a gift from God. My heart will overflow with praise and gratitude for all of His goodness. This is my declaration.

I DECLARE a legacy of faith over my life. I declare that I will store up blessings for future generations. My life is marked by excellence and integrity. Because I'm making right choices and taking steps of faith, others will want to follow me. God's abundance is surrounding my life today. This is my declaration.

I DECLARE that God has a great plan for my life. He is directing my steps. And even though I may not always understand how, I know my situation is not a surprise to God. He will work out every detail to my advantage. In His perfect timing, everything will turn out right. This is my declaration.

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I DECLARE that God's dream for my life is coming to pass. It will not be stopped by people, disappointments, or adversities. God has solutions to every problem I will ever face already lined up. The right people and the right breaks are in my future. I will fulfill my destiny. This is my declaration.

I DECLARE that unexpected blessings are coming my way. I will move forward from barely making it to having more than enough. God will open up supernatural doors for me. He will speak to the right people about me. I will see Ephesians 3:20 exceedingly, abundantly, above-and-beyond favor and increase in my life. This is my declaration.

I DECLARE that God will accelerate His plan for my life as I put my trust in Him. I will accomplish my dreams faster than I thought possible. It will not take years to overcome obstacles, to get out of debt, or to meet the right person. God is doing things faster than before. He will give me victory sooner than I think. He has blessings that will thrust me years ahead. This is my declaration.

I DECLARE Ephesians 3:20 over my life. God will do exceedingly, abundantly above all that I ask or think. Because I honor Him, His blessings will chase me down and overtake me. I will be in the right place at the right time. People will go out of their way to be good to me. I am surrounded by God's favor. This is my declaration.

I DECLARE that I am special and extraordinary. I am not average! I have been custom-made. I am one of a kind. Of all the things God created, what He is most proud of is me. I am His masterpiece, His most prized possession. I will keep my head held high, knowing I am a child of the most high God, made in His very image. This is my declaration.

I DECLARE that God is bringing about new seasons of growth. I will not get stagnant and hold on to the old. I will be open to change knowing that God has something better in front of me. New doors of opportunity, new relationships, and new levels of favor are in my future. This is my declaration.

I DECLARE that I will use my words to bless people. I will speak favor and victory over my family, friends, and loved ones. I will help call out their seeds of greatness by telling them "I'm proud of you. I love you. You are amazing. You are talented. You are beautiful. You will do great things in life." This is my declaration.

I DECLARE that I have a sound mind filled with good thoughts, not thoughts of defeat. By faith, I am well able. I am anointed. I am equipped. I am empowered. God's Word guides my thoughts every day. No obstacle can defeat me because my mind is programmed for victory. This is my declaration.

## **MINISTRY**

1. Pray to recall names that God wants to remove from you.
2. Write those names down.
3. Pray over those names to break the power of the threat of the enemy over those false names.
4. Stay in this place with your eyes closed and listen to hear the name or names that God wants to speak over you.
5. Listed below are some friendship questions to God. Have the courage to ask Him at least one, and listen for His response. Write down the words that you hear in a journal or notebook. Over the next few days, ask Him other questions. Listen for and record His answers.

### **Friendship Questions to God**

1. Jesus, what do you like about me?
2. Jesus, is there a special meeting place You'd like to show me where we can hang out?
3. Jesus, what game would You like to play with me? Why?
4. Jesus, when You see me, what do You think about me?
5. God, who are You?
6. Would You tell me what You are like?
7. Would You show me what You are like?
8. Who am I to You?
9. How do You see me?
10. If I were a tool in a toolbox, which one am I most like? In what way?
11. Do You love me? How much?
12. Do You like me? Why do You like me?
13. Would You show me my heart?

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14. Do You have a gift for me today?
15. What gift can I offer You today?
16. What gift can I offer others today?
17. What's on Your heart, Lord?
18. Is there anything in my life that makes You sad?
19. What in me brings You joy?
20. Is there anything in my family that makes You sad?
21. What in my family brings You joy?
22. Where do You want to meet me today?
23. Where will I see You today?
24. What promise do You have for me today?
25. Who can I encourage today?