Real World Real God: Identity

Pastor Mark Lehmann

"But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted." 1 Peter 2:9 MSG

Identity Theft (1995 - Stolen Identity cause massive pain and hurt) Identity Crisis (1954 - What Does the World Say? who you Are? **Identity Confusion** (Don't allow past hurts, pains or words of others to define you. **Identity in Christ** (What does the Word of God say?) "Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To (name) and the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to _____ and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed _____ in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as He chose _____ in Him before the foundation of the world, that _____ should be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined _____ for adoption to Himself as a son/daughter through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed _____ in the Beloved. In Him _____ has redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of 's trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon _____ in all wisdom and insight making known to _____ the mystery of His will, according to His purpose, which He set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Him _____ has obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, so that _____ who was the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of His glory. In Him _____ also, when he/she heard the word of truth, the gospel of _____ 's salvation, and believed in Him, was sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of ______'s inheritance until he/she acquires possession of it, to the praise of His glory. For this reason, because I have heard of _____'s faith in the Lord Jesus and _____'s love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for him/her, remembering him/her in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may

give _____ the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him, having the eyes of his/her hearts enlightened, that may know what is the hope to

which He has called him/her, what are the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward _____ who believes, according to the working of His great might" Ephesians 1:1-19 ESV

Ephesians 1 | Who God Says I am

- I am a Saint. V1
- I am Blessed v 3
- I am Chosen v4
- I am Accepted v6
- I am Redeemed and Forgiven v 7
- I have an Inheritance in Christ v 11
- I am sealed by the Holy Spirit v 13-14
- I have access to the Resurrection Power of God v 19-21
- I represent Jesus on Earth as part of the Body of Christ v 22-23

"The Bible says that our real problem is that every one of us is basing our identity on something besides Jesus."

- Tim Keller

"If your identity is found it Christ, then it matters less and less what people think of you."

- Leonard Sweet

- 1. Our Identity Tells Us Where We Belong
- 2. Our Identity Tells Us Where We Are Wanted
- 3. Our Identity Puts A Powerful Weapon In Our Hands
- 4. Our Identity Gives Us Confidence In Our Actions
- 5. Our Identity Makes Us Long for Home
- 6. Our Identity Reveals Our Deeper Purpose

Declarations of My Identity in Christ

- I am strong and mighty. I have the same power that raised Christ from the dead dwelling inside of me. I am a weapon of righteousness in a world of darkness.
- I am not my past. I am not what I did. I am who God says I am. He says I am forgiven. He says I am redeemed. He says I am free.
- I am not a hostage to unhealthy thoughts. The weapons I fight with are not the weapons of this world. I have divine power to demolish strongholds.
- I have the mind of Christ directing my thoughts. I have the Word of God guiding my steps.
- I demolish every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God. I take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ.
- Worry is not my master. I trust in God. His peace guards my heart, guards my mind, and guards my soul in Christ Jesus.
- My God has not given me a spirit of fear, but a Spirit of power, of love, and of a sound mind.
- The Lord is my helper. I will not be afraid.

- I am not a slave to my habits. I am not a prisoner to an addiction. I have been rescued from the power of darkness and brought into the kingdom of God's light.
- I am empowered. I am chosen. I am called. I am a masterpiece of God, created in Christ Jesus, to do good works which God prepared in advance for me to do.
- My God will bless me abundantly, so that in all things, at all times, having all I need, I will abound in every good work.
- My God is for me. My God is with me. No weapon formed against me will prosper.
- Nothing can separate me from God's love. Not death. Not demons. Not the
 present nor the past. No power on earth will ever separate me from the love of
 God that is in Christ Jesus my Lord.
- I am not what I have or buy. My identity is in Christ—and Christ alone.
- By God's power I can change.
- I cast my cares on God because He cares for me.
- My life belongs to God. Daily I seek Him, and daily He directs my steps. I know His voice, and He leads me to His perfect will.
- My confidence is in Christ—and Christ alone. Because His Spirit lives within me, I can do everything He calls me to do.

"Friend, your mistakes don't define you any more than your victories do. You and I are defined by what God says about us (all those wonderful things in Ephesians 1!), not what the world says. When we've messed up, when we've hurt ourselves or others by our own selfishness, we should run toward God, not away from him! When we need mercy, we should go where mercy is found."

- Laura Story

God made us who we are so we could make known who He is. Our identity is for the sake of making known His identity to the World.