

The Identity God Gave You Before the World Labeled You

By Admin | Sermon | July 30, 2026

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Imagine for a moment that you are holding an intricate, beautifully designed masterpiece in your hands—one that you know was crafted with intention, purpose, and immense love. Now, picture that masterpiece being covered with scribbles, doodles, and stickers by others who have no real understanding of its true worth and essence. This is often what happens when the world's labels attempt to define us, masking the pristine identity that God placed within us before the foundations of the earth were laid. It's a reality many of us face, and today, we're journeying back to uncover the untarnished, God-given identity that resides deep within your soul. Before we begin, if this message is already touching your heart, consider subscribing to stay connected to God's Word daily.

Our world is filled with voices clamoring to tell us who we are—voices that whisper and sometimes shout labels and stereotypes that can distort our God-given self-view. Whether it's through the pressures of societal expectations, harsh words spoken in a moment of anger, or even the roles we've assumed in life, these labels often obscure the truth God has spoken into us. However, the Bible tells us something profoundly different. In Ephesians 1:4, Paul reminds us that "He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight." This declaration speaks volumes of the honor and love God bestowed upon us long before any worldly label could take hold. Isn't that incredible?

You see, my friend, our truest identity is not found in the opinions of others, the achievements we amass, or the roles we play. It is woven into the fabric of who we are by our Creator. He has called us His children, beloved and chosen, and nothing can strip us of this divine identity. It's an identity rooted in grace, nurtured by love, and resilient against the storms of life. As we peel back the quintessential layers that the world has added, we begin to rediscover who we really are in Christ—a journey that ignites the spirit and transforms the heart. Together, let us dive into Scripture's timeless truths to remember and reclaim the person God saw when He first breathed life into us.

Number 1: The Origin of Our True Identity in God

In the bustling tapestry of life, it's easy for our sense of identity to be overshadowed by various labels—labels given to us by society, circumstances, and sometimes even ourselves. Yet, beyond these labels lies a deeper, more profound identity, one that has been intricately woven by the hands of God before the world uttered a single name for us. Today, let us journey back to the origin of our true identity in God, as revealed through the Scriptures.

Our story begins at the dawn of creation in Genesis 1:27, where it is written: "So God created

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mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." From the very first breath, our identity was tied to the divine image. Unlike any earthly classification, being made in the image of God *Imago Dei* gifts us with inherent worth and purpose. We are not mere accidents of nature or products of random chance; we are the craftsmanship of the loving Creator. Knowing this should fill us with awe and confidence, reminding us that irrespective of how the world sees us, we are reflections of divine artistry.

Consider the story of David, the shepherd boy who became a king. In 1 Samuel 16, when Samuel was sent to anoint the future king of Israel, he mistakenly judged based on external appearances, much like the world does. But God reminded him: "The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart"

Number 2: The Impact of Sin and Worldly Labels

When we dive into the majestic creation story in Genesis, we see a beautiful depiction of humanity's original identity as designed by God. We were created in His image, meant to reflect His glory, intimately known and loved by our Creator. However, as the story unfolds, the entrance of sin dramatically alters humanity's understanding of identity. Adam and Eve's decision to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil marks a significant turning point—one where sin begins to distort the pure identity God had given to humankind. The fall introduces shame, fear, and hiding, emotions that were foreign to God's original intent Genesis 3:7-10. With sin came a separation from God and a brokenness that tainted the way we see ourselves and others. The impact of sin perpetuates through time, influencing societal structures and personal mindsets, creating layers of worldly labels that obscure the divine identity we were meant to embody.

As sin took root, worldly labels began to form. These labels are often deceptive, pressing on us from external circumstances and internal insecurities. They are built on hierarchies, achievements, failures, and surface-level evaluations, far removed from the eternal truth of who we are in God's eyes. Biblical characters experienced these challenges profoundly. Take, for instance, Moses. Born a Hebrew but raised in the luxury of Pharaoh's court, Moses wrestled with identity confusion Exodus 2:10-15. When he fled Egypt after his murder of an Egyptian, he was haunted not only by his past actions but by a debilitating label: fugitive. Despite God's miraculous call on his life, Moses struggled to see himself beyond the confines of this label until he embraced the identity God bestowed on him as a leader and deliverer of His people Exodus 3. His story illustrates that worldly labels can hold us back from fulfilling God's calling.

The Apostle Paul offers yet another perspective on the battle against worldly labels. Formerly

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known as Saul, he was a zealous Pharisee who persecuted the early church, defined by his zeal for the law to the point of violence Acts 7:58-8:3. But when he encountered the risen Christ on the road to Damascus, everything changed Acts 9:3-6. His transformation into Paul shows the power of divine identity overriding worldly labels. Transformed from persecutor to apostle, God's affirmation of Paul superseded his past, empowering him to embrace a new identity characterized by grace, faith, and courage 1 Timothy 1:12-16. Paul's letters extensively discuss this transformation, especially in Romans 12:2, where he urges believers to be transformed by the renewing of their minds, to test and approve God's will—the good, pleasing, and perfect will. This renewed mind helps us step out of the grip of worldly labels into the freeing truth of how God sees us.

Considering Jesus, we observe the world's inclination to label and limit based on earthly perceptions. Jesus, the Son of God, was often categorized according to societal norms. In His hometown of Nazareth, many struggled to see beyond His role as the carpenter's son Matthew 13:55-57. Misunderstood and rejected, their labels obscured His true identity. Even among His adversaries, accusations like "glutton," "drunkard," and "friend of sinners" sought to undermine His divine purpose Matthew 11:19. Yet, Jesus consistently pointed back to His Father's work as the source of His identity John 10:25-30. He exemplifies living above the confines of worldly labels, fully embracing the divine identity and mission entrusted to Him.

The ripple effect of sin in the world casts shadowy labels upon us that can cripple our self-worth and purpose if left unchecked. These labels—fearful, inadequate, unloved, failure, or even lost—echo through society, but they fail to recognize our true worth. Yet, the Bible offers a counter-narrative. Through Christ, God invites us to shed these false identities and accept the truth that we are beloved children, fearfully and wonderfully made Psalm 139:14. We are forgiven, whole, and free—not because of our own doing but through the redemptive power of Christ's sacrifice Ephesians 2:8-10.

Practical application is key to embracing the identity God intends for us. It begins with grounding ourselves in His Word. Scripture reveals to us God's unchanging nature and His promises concerning who we are. For instance, in Ephesians 1:4-6, Paul affirms that we were chosen before the foundation of the world, predestined for adoption into God's family. This is a truth not based on performance but on God's sovereign grace. Similarly, in Galatians 3:26-28, we are reminded that our identity transcends cultural, social, and even gender distinctions because we are all one in Christ.

Living out this divine identity requires an intentional shedding of worldly labels. This might mean

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choosing God's truth over the fleeting approval of others. It might mean standing firmly in the reality that you are called and purposed, even when past failures attempt to redefine you. This journey takes courage and faith, allowing God's voice to resonate louder than the noise of worldly labels. Isaiah 43:1 powerfully reassures us: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine." The world's labels lose their power when we know to whom we belong.

Community, too, plays a pivotal role in reinforcing our identity in Christ. Surround yourself with fellow believers who echo and amplify God's truth in your life. The church serves as an encouraging body of Christ that reminds each of us of our identity beyond any worldly measure Hebrews 10:24-25. Encouragement and accountability from a faith-filled community help dismantle the strongholds that false labels can have, enabling us to walk in the freedom and fullness of our God-given identity.

As we close this section, reflect on the transformative power of embracing the divine identity bestowed by God. Choosing to live above the impact of sin and worldly labels involves daily surrender and trust. Trust in God's unerring design, His redemption plan through Christ, and His promise that nothing can separate us from His love Romans 8:38-39. Acknowledge that the identity God gave you shines brighter and truer than any label the world might attempt to assign.

Number 3: Rediscovering Our Identity Through Scripture

In our journey to uncover who we truly are in the eyes of God, there is no better place to start than the Holy Scriptures. The Bible is not just a collection of ancient writings but a living testament, a mirror reflecting God's voice, telling us who we are long before the world had a chance to label us. To understand how God defines our identity, we must immerse ourselves in His Word, letting its truth wash over us, transforming our perception of ourselves and the lives we lead.

One of the most profound affirmations of our identity comes from Genesis 1:27, where we are reminded that "God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." This is a powerful declaration! It assures us that our identity is rooted in the divine image, possessing an intrinsic value beyond our achievements or the labels society might impose. Knowing this, how can we doubt our worth? The Creator of the universe sees His reflection in us, a testament that we are His handiwork, fearfully and wonderfully made, as echoed in Psalm 139:14.

The stories of biblical characters further illustrate how identity is shaped by God rather than by worldly labels. Take David, for example. Before he was a king or a warrior, he was a shepherd boy,

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underestimated by his own family. Yet, when God saw David, He saw a king—someone after His own heart, despite David's humble beginnings and human frailties. God's vision for David's life was not hindered by his circumstances or others' perceptions. Similarly, we must recognize that our potential isn't limited by our current situation or others' opinions. God calls us for His purposes, defining us by His truth.

Another remarkable story is that of Gideon, found in Judges 6. Here, an angel of the Lord addresses Gideon not as he is—timid and hidden from his enemies—but as God sees him: "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior." Despite Gideon's doubt and fear, God spoke into his life, proclaiming a destiny filled with courage and deliverance. This narrative teaches us that God's perspective of our identity transcends our self-perceived limitations. When we align ourselves with God's view, we too can rise to the destiny He envisions for us.

The New Testament further enriches our understanding of identity through Christ. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, Paul writes, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" Accepting Christ redefines who we are at the core. We shed our old selves—the labels, the mistakes, the past—and embrace a new identity centered in His love and sacrifice. Through Christ, we become children of God, heirs with Him, born anew to live a life that reflects His grace and truth. This transformation should embolden us, knowing we are not defined by past failures but by our rebirth in Him.

One practical way to rediscover our identity through scripture is to immerse ourselves regularly in its teachings, allowing them to transform our hearts and minds. Meditating on verses that speak to our identity, like Ephesians 2:10, which reminds us that we are God's handiwork, can help us internalize the truth of who we are. By committing God's promises to memory, we build a foundation that can withstand the pressures of external labels. It becomes a continual process of renewal, as described in Romans 12:2, which encourages us not to conform to this world but to be transformed by the renewal of our minds.

As we grow in our scriptural understanding, our sense of self begins to align more closely with how God sees us. We start letting go of identities crafted by societal expectations, past mistakes, or even self-doubt. Instead, we anchor ourselves in the identity that is eternal and unchanging—our identity in Christ. This awareness brings freedom, freeing us from the shackles of seeking validation from the world. We become secure in the knowledge that our worth is established by God.

In our everyday lives, we apply these truths by living intentionally in the identities God has

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bestowed upon us. We listen more attentively to the still, small voice affirming His love and purpose for us. We pursue relationships, careers, and passions not by chasing external labels but by seeking to honor God in all we do. Our life's journey becomes a reflection of 1 Peter 2:9, which calls us a "chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession," reminding us that we belong to Him and are called to declare His praises.

Through the scriptures, we learn that our identity is less about who the world wants us to be and more about who God says we are. He assures us through His Word that we are loved, chosen, redeemed, and promised an eternal inheritance. It becomes imperative not only to read these truths but to believe them with conviction, allowing them to shape our actions and cultivate a heart that reflects Christ's love.

As we conclude this deep dive into rediscovering our identity through scripture, I urge you to remember that God's design and intent for your life surpass any earthly label. Let the Word of God dwell in you richly, guiding and transforming your heart. In every scripture we read, every prayer we whisper, and every act of faith we take, let us draw closer to the identity God Himself has given us, an identity with no greater worth or purpose.

In drawing closer to the heart of God through Scripture, we find a lasting, immovable identity. Every morning, wake up and declare the truths God has spoken over you. Let His Word shape the way you see yourself and the world. May you continue to discover the depth of the identity He crafted for you long before birth, an identity more glorious than anything the world can offer. Be encouraged, for in God's eyes, you are precious, and you are His.

Number 4: The Unconditional Love and Acceptance of God

When we consider the identity God has given us before any worldly label, we must first dwell on the profound truth of His unconditional love and acceptance. This aspect of God's character is woven throughout the Scriptures, reminding us of an unchanging truth: we are loved not for what we do, but for who we are in Him, chosen and beloved children.

In Romans 8:38-39, the Apostle Paul beautifully captures this assurance, declaring, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Truth this potent serves to assure us that the love we receive from God is unfailing and steadfast, regardless of what labels or judgments the world might place upon us.

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Reflecting on Jesus's ministry further affirms this certainty. In John 4, we encounter the Samaritan woman at the well. Here is a woman burdened by societal labels and personal shame, ostracized and belittled for her life choices. Yet, Jesus meets her in her isolation, not with condemnation, but with transformative love and acceptance. He speaks to her directly, offering living water that quenches the deepest thirst of the soul. In doing so, He demonstrates that His love overrides societal judgments, welcoming even those the world deems unworthy.

Practical application of this truth changes our perspective fundamentally. When we accept that God's love is not conditional on our achievements or failures, we find a solid foundation upon which we can build our identity. Picture waking up each morning knowing that no mistake can decrease your worth and no accomplishment can increase it. This is the freeing power of God's love, which enables us to live with confidence and peace, stripped of the need to earn approval through earthly standards.

Look at the life of David—a man after God's own heart, yet not without faults. Despite his sins and shortcomings, David's identity remained rooted in God's love and calling. In Psalm 139, David writes, "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts." His vulnerability before God, paired with the certainty of God's unfailing love, showcases a relationship where acceptance is not based on perfection, but on God's steadfast mercy. This encourages us to approach God with our true selves, knowing that we are wholly accepted.

Moreover, the prodigal son's story in Luke 15 is a powerful picture of God's unconditional love. The son leaves home, squanders his inheritance, and returns in shame, expecting rejection. Yet, his father runs to him with open arms, celebrating his return. This story encapsulates the essence of God's love—welcoming us back, restoring us to our true identity despite any worldly detours or failures.

In practical terms, embracing this love means learning to accept ourselves as God accepts us. It's transforming our self-perception to align with God's view. Pray regularly, asking God to help you see yourself as He sees you. Meditate on Scriptures affirming your worth in God's eyes.

Colossians 3:12 reminds us: "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience." Here, we see that knowing we are loved enables us to live with renewed purpose and character.

It's also important to recognize that this unconditional love calls us to extend the same love to others. 1 John 4:19 tells us, "We love because he first loved us." This divine cycle of receiving and giving love reflects God's ultimate plan for us—to live in the fullness of our God-given identity by

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becoming vessels of His love and grace. Whether it's forgiving someone who has wronged us or reaching out to those who feel unloved, our actions become powerful testimonies of God's love in us.

Ultimately, knowing the unconditional love and acceptance of God means living free from the chains of worldly labels. It's about embracing the truth that the God of the universe calls us His own. This identity surpasses all others, rooting us in a love that cannot be shaken by circumstances or human opinions.

As we draw to a close, let us hold tight to this profound truth: Before the world had the chance to define or label you, God called you beloved. This identity, secured by His love and acceptance, is an unshakeable truth to carry with you, guiding and shaping every aspect of your life.

May you walk confidently, loved unconditionally by your Creator, and reflect that love and acceptance into the world around you. Your identity is not what the world says; it is who God says you are—His beloved child, forever graced by His incomparable love.

Number 5: Embracing Our Unique Purpose and Gifts

In our journey of discovering the identity God bestowed upon us, we arrive at an essential understanding: the unique purpose and extraordinary gifts He has woven into the fabric of our being. The Scriptures tell us in Ephesians 2:10, "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago." This verse not only affirms that we are God's handiwork but also highlights the preordained good works—our unique purposes—that He prepared just for us. Each of us is handcrafted for a special role in His divine plan, distinct and irreplaceable.

Consider Jeremiah, the prophet whose calling was sealed even before his birth. In Jeremiah 1:5, the Lord proclaims, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." Jeremiah's life reminds us that God's purposes transcend human labels and expectations—He anoints us long before the world can impose its definitions upon us. We might feel ill-equipped or inadequate at times, much like Jeremiah did, but God reassures us that His calling comes with divine equipping and unfaltering support.

Each person is as unique as the measures of faith and gifts bestowed upon us, as described in Romans 12:6-8. "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us." These spiritual gifts are not products of our making; they are tailored to us by divine intent, meant to aid in fulfilling our God-given purpose. Whether it's the gift of serving, teaching, encouraging, or showing

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mercy, each is crucial for the edification of the body of Christ. Our role isn't to covet or imitate someone else's calling but to embrace and nurture our own.

The life of Esther beautifully illustrates embracing one's unique purpose. Esther, an orphan raised by her cousin Mordecai, was placed in a position of influence for a time critical to her people. Despite her humble beginnings, Esther embraced her royal position and used it to intercede for the Jews under threat of annihilation. In Esther 4:14, Mordecai challenges her with the words, "And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" Her story teaches us to recognize the significance of our roles—whatever they may be—in God's greater narrative.

Our gifts and purposes are not for personal glory but for serving others and glorifying God. First Peter 4:10-11 encourages us, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." True fulfillment and identity are discovered not when we seek to please the world but when we faithfully express the gifts God entrusted to us. In sharing our talents and walking in our purposes, we reflect His grace and power to the world.

Yet, embracing our purpose does face its challenges. Society often tries to mold us into certain patterns—expectations of success, beauty, or worth—but the Scriptures remind us that conformity to the world restricts our spiritual transformation. Romans 12:2 counsels us, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." It is through this renewal, aligning our thoughts with God's, that we discern His will for us—His good, pleasing, and perfect will.

To fully embrace our unique purpose, it is vital to cultivate an intimate relationship with God, the source of our identity. Through prayer, meditation on His Word, and openness to the Holy Spirit's guidance, we gain clearer insights into our calling. Much like Samuel, who learned to discern the voice of God through Eli's guidance, we too must learn to listen and recognize God's whisper amidst the noise of the world. 1 Samuel 3 depicts this learning process, and Samuel's eventual attunement to God's voice highlights the importance of being sensitive to divine nudges.

So, what practical steps can we take to embrace our unique gifts and purpose? Start by reflecting on your passions and inclinations. What drives you? Where do you find joy and fulfillment? These are often indicators of the gifts God has embedded within you. Engage in active service within your community or church, offering your talents freely and observing how God uses them to impact others. Remember the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30, which underscores the

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importance of utilizing and multiplying what God has given us rather than burying it out of fear.

Community also plays a vital role in nurturing our gifts. By surrounding ourselves with fellow believers—those who encourage, challenge, and hold us accountable—we harness the collective wisdom and support necessary for growth. Hebrews 10:24-25 emphasizes the importance of community, exhorting us to "spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but

Number 6: The Transformative Power of a Renewed Mind

As we venture into the sixth part of our journey together, let's explore this powerful and essential truth: the transformative power of a renewed mind. It's like breathing in fresh mountain air after being in a crowded room; it's invigorating, freeing, and enlightening. In Romans 12:2, we find Paul urging us, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. His words serve as a gentle reminder that truly knowing our God-given identity requires a shift in our mindset—an essential departure from worldly labels and perceptions.

This transformation process is beautifully captured in the life and journey of the Apostle Paul himself. Before his encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus, Paul was known as Saul, a fierce persecutor of Christians. His identity was rooted deeply in his zealous adherence to traditional Jewish laws Acts 8:3. However, that historic encounter with Christ resulted not only in his physical blindness but also a profound, renewing transformation of his mind and spirit. As God opened his eyes, literally and spiritually, Saul's transformation into Paul illustrates the deep metamorphosis that occurs when our mind and identity align with God's truth.

To understand the full power of a renewed mind, we should also acknowledge the challenges that come with it. Neglecting to renew our minds can lead to being trapped inside the world's definitions of success, worth, and identity. By contrast, embracing a renewed mind through the lens of God's Word enables us to see ourselves from His perspective. Just as the Israelites were instructed to write God's words on their hearts and minds Deuteronomy 10:16, we are invited to drink deeply from Scripture, allowing its truth to soak into our consciousness and transform us. Biblical meditation, or the intentional focus on God's truths, is not just beneficial; it is essential for our transformation.

But how do we practically renew our minds in this frantic world? First, it requires daily surrender and intentionality in immersing ourselves in the Word of God. Scripture is more than ink on a page; it's a living, breathing conversation between God and His people. It has the power to discern and refine our thoughts and intentions Hebrews 4:12, providing clarity in confusion and truth amidst

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deception.

Furthermore, fostering a renewed mind involves aligning our thoughts with Philippians 4:8, which encourages us to dwell on things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, or praiseworthy. The words we allow into our minds shape our identity, just as constant exposure to negative media and toxic narratives can distort our self-perception. Whether it's through studying Scripture, listening to life-giving sermons, or surrounding ourselves with a community of believers who speak truth in love, we build a solid fortress around our hearts and minds. It's about engaging in daily practices that bring our thoughts into obedience to Christ 2 Corinthians 10:5.

Prayer, too, is an indispensable part of this process. It connects us with the heart of God, allowing Him to nurture and transform our thinking. When we pray, we're invited to venture beyond surface needs to deeper heart change, aligning our desires and thoughts with God's kingdom purposes. Through prayer, we invite God to highlight and cleanse erroneous beliefs and replace them with His life-affirming truth.

In moments of uncertainty or struggle, we can find encouragement in the story of David. Despite being anointed as the future king, David faced significant challenges and periods of doubt. Yet, in Psalm 51:10, he earnestly sought God, praying, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. His plea for renewal signifies a heart responsive to God's transformative work, setting an example for all of us in our pursuit of a renewed mind.

As we continue to walk in our God-given identity, let's anchor ourselves in the truth that change is a journey, and transformation doesn't happen overnight. It's a continuous progression of faith, a series of choices made each day. Romans 8:5 reminds us that "those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. As we set our minds on the Spirit, we open ourselves up to divine wisdom, courage, and love that transcend all human labels.

In overcoming worldly influences, the metaphor of putting on the "new self" as described in Ephesians 4:22-24 becomes vital. This shift signifies more than a superficial change; it is a complete realignment with who we are in Christ. Like peeling off old, worn-out garments, embracing our new self with a renewed mind brings us closer to God's intended design—allowing the old labels to fall away like discarded shells. We emerge more vibrant, free, and aligned with His purpose. Just as a caterpillar undergoes an inside-out transformation to become a butterfly, so does the believer's renewed mind allow God's majesty to be displayed through us.

The power to live in this renewal comes from staying connected to the vine, as Jesus taught in John 15:4—by abiding in Him, and allowing His Word to abide in us. An ever-deepening

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relationship with Jesus fuels and sustains our growth, revealing more of our true identity with each passing day. We were given a divine identity long before the world sought to define us. Embracing this and allowing it to transform our minds is the essence of living life with radiant authenticity.

Dear friends, as we conclude this portion of our journey, be encouraged to daily draw on the living waters of Christ's teachings, allowing them to cleanse, refresh, and renew your mind. Through this transformation, you will discover not only who you are but who you are destined to become. Let us celebrate the fullness of our identity in Christ, both now and in the days to come. May the transformative power of a renewed mind guide you into a life of joy, purpose, and divine fulfillment.

Number 7: Living Out Our God-Given Identity Daily

As we embark on this journey to understand and live out our God-given identity, it's important to remember that this isn't a one-time revelation but a daily commitment. In living out our identity in Christ, we are called to a lifestyle that mirrors His teachings and reflects His love. Walking in our true identity is a daily pursuit where we choose to reject the world's labels and embrace the masterpiece God has created in us.

Let's start by acknowledging that our identity in God is rooted deeply in His word. In Ephesians 2:10, Paul reminds us that we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. This means that each day holds divine opportunities tailor-made for you to step into your God-given role. This awareness ties you more closely to God's purpose and highlights the significance of your unique calling.

Consider the example of David, a shepherd boy anointed by God to become the king of Israel. Despite being overlooked by his family and underestimated by his peers, David held onto the truth of his divine selection. In 1 Samuel 16:7, God tells Samuel, "The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." David's journey from the pasture to the palace is a testament to living out a God-given identity despite external labels. Each day, David chose to act as a servant leader according to God's design, rather than conforming to societal expectations.

Living out your identity also requires constant renewal of the mind. Romans 12:2 instructs us not to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of our mind. It's a daily discipline, surrendering our thoughts, desires, and actions to God, letting the truth of His Word redefine who we are and how we live. This transformation process empowers us to prove what is the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God through our lives and decisions.

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Revisiting the story of Esther, we find another powerful example of someone living out her God-given identity. Esther, an orphan raised by her cousin Mordecai, became queen at a time of great peril for her people. In Esther 4:14, Mordecai challenges her with the words, "And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" Esther's brave choice to step into her identity as a savior figure for her people, despite the threat to her own life, is a profound lesson in embracing God's purpose for us. Every day brings 'such a time as this' moments—opportunities to impact the world through the divine purposes God has planted within us.

So, how can we practically live out our God-given identity on a daily basis? Start by anchoring your day in prayer and Scripture. Jesus Himself exemplified this in Mark 1:35, when He rose early in the morning for solitary time in communion with the Father. Prioritizing time with God sharpens our spiritual insight and aligns our hearts with His will, empowering us to face the world with clarity and conviction. By grounding our daily rhythm in God's presence, we invite His peace and guidance, which is vital for staying true to our identity.

Community also plays a critical role in living out our identity in Christ. Hebrews 10:24-25 urges us not to give up meeting together, but to encourage one another. Plugging into a community of believers provides support, accountability, and encouragement, reminding you of God's truth when the world's voices get loud. Sharing our struggles and victories with fellow Christians creates a ripple effect of faith, reinforcing our collective identity and mission. Together, we help each other grow and remain steadfast in living authentically as God's children.

Lastly, living out our God-given identity involves a posture of humility and service. Jesus, in John 13:14-15, sets an example by washing His disciples' feet, demonstrating that true leadership and identity in God involve serving others. Each day presents new opportunities to serve, to reflect Christ's love through simple acts of kindness and compassion. Whether it's comforting a friend, volunteering at a local shelter, or being a light in your workplace, these actions amplify our identity in Christ and bear witness to His transformative power in our lives.

Living out our God-given identity is a journey of daily choices. Psalm 139:14 reminds us that we are fearfully and wonderfully made; understanding and embracing this truth ignites a passion to walk in that identity with confidence and authenticity. Every decision, interaction, and moment becomes a reflection of the Creator's thumbprint on our lives. Embrace this identity fully, knowing that each day is a new page in the story God is writing through you.

As we conclude, let the words of 2 Corinthians 5:17 resonate deeply within your heart: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" May this be

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your daily declaration and reality—that in Christ, you are made new, equipped, and called to live out a purpose that goes beyond any label the world may impose. Keep choosing to live out your true identity boldly and lovingly, infusing the world with the light and love only you can bring.

Conclusion

As we draw this discussion on "The Identity God Gave You Before the World Labeled You" to a close, let's take a moment to reflect on the profound truths we've explored. We've journeyed through the heart of Scripture, uncovering the beautiful reality that our identity is divinely crafted, not man-made. We've revisited the truths of Genesis where God, in His infinite wisdom and love, created us in His image, setting the foundation for our worth and purpose. This original design speaks volumes about our inherent value, reminding us that before any societal label, God's fingerprint was already pressed upon our very being.

We've uncovered how, in a world quick to define us by temporary standards, the Bible offers an unshakeable identity in Christ. Ephesians 1:4 powerfully declares that God chose us before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. This reveals a profound truth: Before any worldly label, our core identity is rooted in being deeply loved children of God. Through Christ, we have a new identity as heirs to His promises, highlighting that our true essence is not found in what we do or what others say, but in who we are in Him.

Embracing this identity calls us to rise above societal pressures and expectations. It's an invitation to see ourselves and others through God's eyes, recognizing the unique calling each of us has. Romans 12:2 encourages us not to conform to the patterns of this world but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. This transformation allows us to live out our God-given identity confidently, unashamedly anchored in His truth. In doing so, we can boldly shine His light in the world, becoming reflections of His love and grace.

God's faithfulness is interwoven in every chapter of our lives, reinforcing the identity He bestowed upon us from the beginning. His steadfast love is constantly shaping and refining us, leading us back to the realization of who we are meant to be. Philippians 1:6 reminds us that He who began a good work in us will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. This promise reassures us that our identity in God is still being formed and perfected.

As we continue to walk this path, let gratitude for His unwavering love guide our steps. Let us choose daily to surrender the labels the world imposes and instead embrace the truth of who we are in Christ. It's a journey marked by grace, where each step draws us nearer to our Creator and strengthens our capacity to live authentically in His design. Remember, you are fearfully and

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wonderfully made, chosen and beloved, destined for purpose.

Thank you for journeying with us today. Before you go, make sure to FOLLOW and subscribe, like this video, and share it with someone who needs encouragement today. And join us next time as we uncover another powerful truth from God's Word.