

Lesson Five: Spiritual Identity, Part I



In this transformative lesson on Spiritual Identity, you are invited to embark on a profound journey. This expedition will guide you beyond the realm of false narratives and limiting beliefs, ultimately leading you to embrace who you truly are in Christ.

Step one on the journey is to answer the first question.

Question #1: What is your identity and where does it come from? (Keep in mind that there are no right or wrong answers; this is simply a point along your journey.)

Knowing God is the First Step

Understanding your own identity is intricately linked to comprehending and believing the nature of God. This beautiful journey of spiritual identity begins with embracing the truth



about who God is. As you delve deeper into His character, you will unlock the door to recognizing your identity through His eyes.

The Bible reveals a multitude of incredible characteristics that define God's nature:

- Creator: The architect of the universe, bringing everything into existence.
 (Genesis 1:1)
- Faithful: Unwavering in His promises and love for you. (Lamentations 3:22-23)
- Loving: The embodiment of unconditional love for all of mankind. (1 John 4:7-12)
- Forgiving: Always ready to pardon your shortcomings and mistakes. (Psalm 103:12)
- Merciful: Extending grace and kindness beyond what you deserve. (Psalm 103:8)
- Righteous: The perfect standard of justice and morality. (Romans 1:17)
- Holy: Set apart and pure from all that is imperfect. (Isaiah 6:1-5)
- Sovereign: In complete control of all things. (Daniel 4:34-35)
- Infinite: Boundless in nature, without limits or restrictions. (Job 11:7-9)
- Provider: Meeting your needs with generosity and care. (Genesis 22:14)
- Good: The very essence of benevolence and kindness. (Psalm 34:8)

These attributes merely scratch the surface of God's complex and awe-inspiring nature. There is so much more to discover about His character as you continue your spiritual journey.

God is Exactly Who He Claims to Be

The missionary's heart raced as she approached the gate, the angry shouts of the mob growing louder with each step. Machetes glinted in the early morning sun, a stark contrast to the peaceful compound behind her. She had spent the night rescuing women from the clutches of human trafficking, and now their captors had come to claim them back.



As she walked alone towards the crowd, an inexplicable calm washed over her. Instead of fear, she felt a surge of strength and protection enveloping her like a shield. The mob's fury seemed to falter as she drew near. One by one, the men began to back away, their weapons lowering. By the time she reached the gate, only a single man remained – the pimp of one of the rescued women.

His earlier bravado had evaporated, replaced by a meek demeanor as he made one last plea for the woman's return. The missionary firmly refused but extended an invitation for him to leave his life of exploitation behind. With a quiet "No, thank you," he turned and walked away, leaving the missionary in awe of the unseen force that had dispersed the mob.

The following day brought an unexpected visitor. The pimp returned, not with threats, but with a request to be rescued himself. He spoke of being overwhelmed by the presence of enormous men accompanying the missionary, feeling both intimidated and strangely loved. When she explained she had been alone, his eyes widened in disbelief. "No, you were not," he insisted. "You had at least ten of the biggest men I have ever seen with you."

For the missionary, this extraordinary encounter reaffirmed profound truths about God. It was a powerful reminder that in the darkest moments, she was never truly alone. God's protection, sovereignty, righteousness, and love had manifested in a way that not only safeguarded her but also opened the door to redemption for those trapped in the cycle of exploitation.

This story is powerful because it serves as a profound testament to the missionary's understanding of who God is, which empowered her to embrace her true identity.





Question #2: Are there any characteristics about God that you personally do not believe in or accept?

Question #3: What steps or changes are necessary to align your actions with your beliefs about God?



Lost In Translation

When we delve into biblical texts, it's crucial to understand that translations often fail to capture the full depth and nuance of the original Hebrew and Greek languages. A prime example of this is the phrase "I AM," which holds profound meaning.

God speaks, "I AM", it surpasses mere linguistic constructs, embodying a concept that extends beyond the literal translation of "To Be." This powerful declaration is not simply an affirmation of existence, but a revelation of God's essence. When God pronounces "I



AM," He is unveiling the totality of His being, encompassing all aspects of His nature and character.
God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." Say this to the people of Israel: "I AM has sent me to you." Exodus 3:14 NLT
Application

A. I Am Statement

Write description of yourself, filling in the blank to the statement "I am". (For example: I am a mother, I am excited, I am tired, I am fearful, I am a teacher, etc.)

I am	l am
I am	I am

Grasping the true meaning of "I AM" can profoundly alter our perception and use of this phrase. When we utter the phrase "I AM," we're not just making a statement about ourselves; we're acknowledging the presence of God within us. It's as if we're saying, "God in me is..." This realization elevates our self-talk from mundane chatter to powerful, Godly affirmations about our identity and potential.



Reframing an "I AM" statement to "God in me is..." will it change the way you speak over

B. God in me is...

Homework:

For the Lesson on Spiritual Identity, please complete the Homework before our group time.

This 7-Day Journey with God is designed to help you internalize God's characteristics and apply them to your own life. Each day, focus on a different attribute of God and reflect on how it impacts your identity and daily living.

Day 1: Creator

Reflection: Consider how God, as the Creator, has uniquely designed you.

Action: List three unique talents or qualities you possess. How can you use these to create something beautiful or meaningful at work?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



Day 2: Faithful

Reflection: Meditate on God's faithfulness in your life.

Action: Write down a time when God was faithful to you, even when circumstances seemed dire. How does this impact your trust in Him today?

Day 3: Loving

Reflection: Contemplate the depth of God's love for you.

Action: Perform three acts of love today, mirroring God's love. Reflect on how this changes your perspective on relationships.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Day 4: Forgiving

Reflection: Think about the power of God's forgiveness.

Action: Is there someone you need to forgive? Take a step towards forgiveness today, remembering God's forgiveness towards you.



Day 5: Sovereign

Reflection: Consider God's control over all aspects of life.

Action: Identify an area of your life where you struggle to let go. Practice surrendering this to God today.

Day 6: Provider

Reflection: Reflect on how God has provided for you.

Action: Make a gratitude list of 9 ways God has provided for you recently. How does this affect your trust in Him for future needs?

1.	4.	7.
2.	5.	8.
3.	6.	9.

Day 7: Good

Reflection: Meditate on God's inherent goodness.

Action: Look for evidence of God's goodness in your day Journal about three specific

Action: Look for evidence of God's goodness in your day. Journal about three speci	
instances you notice.	
1.	
2.	
3.	