

IDENTITY

According to CEOWORLD magazine, as of 2018, the world population stood at over 7.6B. This implies that around this figure is dwelling on the planet, Earth. These people are moving about, carrying out different activities ranging from occupational, recreational, spiritual, among others. What I believe might be the pertinent question at this time is the reason for these people to be involved in such activities. To the best of my understanding, you and I are mostly “busy” finding or locating our identities in relation to our God-ordained potentials. The summary of which is knowing “who we are” and “why we are here”.

Merriam-Webster dictionary defines Identity as the distinguishing character or personality of an individual. Also, It can be the qualities, beliefs, etc., that make a particular person or group different from others.

There are different types of identity, these include Social, Cultural, Spiritual, National, Regional, Personal, and others.

It will be amazing to know that a larger percentage of the population is going about without a sense of identity. They do not know who they are, I am not talking about their names, gender, nationality, race, and others. This identity is the description of who you are, the ‘real you’. Personal Identity talks about who you are, your inner man..... your inbuilt nature.

Knowing the clue to your identity comes with a package that includes;

- It gives a sense of purpose
- It impacts responsibilities
- It encourages accountability
- It shapes the character
- It instills discipline
- It leads to a life of fulfillment

What’s your identity?

How do you enquire about your identity, how do you find out who you are?

This is not a strange act and not out of place, identity is very crucial to a purposeful and successful living. Still dwelling on the subject of identity, our Lord Jesus Christ seeks to know who people think He is. He asked His disciples:

When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

¹⁴ And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

¹⁵ He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? (Matthew 16:13-15KJV)

There are four (4) reasons for this question: to know if the disciples are indeed clear about His mission and who He is. Also, to be clear that people are not having a wrong impression about Him and His acts. In addition, to be sure that He is working according to the will of the father who has sent him.

Life issues require practical solutions and much more, spiritual. Issues are first settled in the spiritual realm before becoming a reality in the physical world. Problem-solving always begins with asking the right questions, the pertinent questions.

To have a clear picture of identity, certain questions need to be sincerely answered.

Who am I? Where am I from? Why am I? How do I know what to do?

These questions can be likened to a compass, showing direction, or acting as pointers to life's purpose. This is talking about that single thing for which you are created or existing. It must be stated at this juncture that God created everything, in heaven and on earth, including you.

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. (Colossians 1:16 NIV)

God is your manufacturer, your maker, and the greatest potter that molded you.

God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. (John 1:3 NLT)

The fact is that all things are created already and nothing will be created again, what we will be having will be discoveries and possibly a recreation of what was earlier created.

Going to God for answers is the wisest decision that can ever be taken, all the details are with God. It is the most suitable place to seek solutions pertaining to life's issues.

My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in secret, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. (Psalm 139:15 NIV)

If you are not convinced that He knows you, how about the vivid description of Saul's location in Damascus that He gave to Ananias. He gave him complete details including the Street address, very straightforward description.

In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord," he answered.

¹¹ The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. (Acts 9:10-11 NIV)

God knows you and knows everything about you. Everything is laid bare before Him, nothing about you is hidden from Him.

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable. (Hebrews 4:13 NLT)

Providence demands that you turn to God if you want to know yourself, the real you. He is ever ready to reveal the mysteries about you, wants to show you your true color, your real worth, and value.

He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him. (Daniel 2:22 NKJV)

How do inquire from God?

It must be stressed at this point that you should never inquire from anybody about yourself including your loved ones. Pastors, Evangelists, Parents, Brothers, Sisters, Wives, Husbands, and others are clueless about your identity. They will give you their impressions or opinions about you that might not be right. Worse still, if you are not cautious and carry out proper analyses, you might mistake an opinion or impression as an identity.

Caution! These people can only guide and guard you on the right paths to discovery.

Only God knows everything about you, your identity is in His palm.

What are the ways by which you can inquire from God?

(a) Prayer

Purposeful and question-asking prayer is an avenue to ask God about your identity.

Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. (Mark 11:24NKJV)

Please, don't let religion robs you of a place in destiny. Seek to know from God, He is your father and ever ready to show you whatever you ask and genuinely thirst for.

Ask Him pertinent questions in your prayers and listen for a response.

(b) Praise and Worship

Praise is one of the under-utilized acts in finding solutions. While prayer goes up to God, Praise brings God down to your situation. Our God dwells in the midst of His people's praises.

But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel. (Psalm 22:3KJV)

When God comes down, He comes down with the needed solutions.

He reveals the deep things of darkness and brings utter darkness into the light. (Job 12:22KJV)

Praise is one of the cheapest ways of seeking God's intervention and inviting Him into issues.

(c) Word study and Meditations

Study and meditate on the Word of God and He will show you what you need to know about yourself.

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path. (Psalm 119:105NLT)

The Scripture is an inspiration from God, The Words it contains are God-breathed. Every detail and everything about you are all-inclusive in the Scripture, the manual for living.

(d) Be in the Spirit

It takes to be in the spirit to hear from God. God is Spirit and whoever will hear him must be in the spirit.

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24KJV)

Hidden and deep things are revealed to God's people on the platform of being spiritual.

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day..... (Revelations 1:10NKJV)

And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne. (Revelations 4:12KJV)

Beloved, you can't stay aloof, be a man and woman of spirit. The answers or solutions to your questions are waiting for you to be unveiled. Divine revelations will put you on the highway to your dominion and glory.

(e) Be Born-again

For you to be in Spirit, you must be in His fold, you must belong to the family. Your identity is part of the mysteries of life, which can only be revealed to His own.

This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to God's people. (Colossians 1:26NLT)

Furthermore, identity, as described here, is for the living. Only the redeemed are living. The only choice for you is to be with Christ and register among the living. Accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior today, forsake your old ways and it will be well with your soul.

Finally, let us pray;

1. Thank God for your life.
2. If you are yet to have Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, do so now. Ask Him to come into your life as your Lord and Savior, tell Him you will do His will for the rest of your life.
3. God reveals my identity to me and continues to guide and guard me to achieve my purpose.

JESUS CHRIST IS LORD