LABELS

The challenge with labels is that people will live up to them, good and bad. We have been putting labels on one another since childhood. Good girl or good boy. Are you on the naughty or nice list?

We play children's games about who you will marry—rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief, doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief. We would giggle and point fingers.

Labels ultimately measure how you compare to those around you. Who is funny, boring, attractive, homely, friendly, conceited, snobbish, kind, loving, mean, etc.?



It doesn't stop with childhood games. It follows us through school. What was your GPA? What side of town did you live on? What type of car did your parents drive? Who was voted to be prom king and queen? Who is most likely to succeed, most likely to end up in jail, most likely to become a millionaire, etc.?

Christ

LABELS



The challenge with labels is that people will live up to them, good and bad. Those labels affect how we see our identity. We laugh at these seemingly innocent labels.

How about a child or an adult who believes they don't measure up or will struggle with life because they have been branded with numerous negative labels, including attention-deficient disorder, hyperactivity, bipolar, depression, on the spectrum, and so on?

I don't care for labels because they can damage our sense of worth and identity. The only descriptions I am comfortable with are either Child of God or Creation Caf God.

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Both are true. A 'Child of God' has heard and believed the good news of Jesus Christ, who chose to die on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins so that we can be reconciled to God. They who believed this truth invited the Lord into their heart and life.

John 3:16 NKVV For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

While a 'Creation of God' are individuals who are uncertain about God, lost, or searching for answers. Still, some people deny that God exists or the presence of evil. I make a point to pray for the salvation of those lost souls who do not know the truth of God or about his incredible love and the power, provision, and protection he gives to his children.

James 4:7 NKJV Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 Peter 5:8 NKJV Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

There is a battle for our minds vying for how we see our identity. We fight with negative self-talk and demonic influences, speaking deceptions, lies, and accusations in first person outside our heads to tempt you to believe they are our thoughts. We struggle with the world's standards or lack of moral code. All of these confrontations challenge how we see our identity.

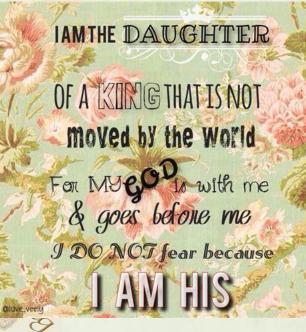
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We are to renew our minds with the word of God and his truth about our identity. Take off those meaningless, false labels and put on who you are in Christ.

Psalm 139:14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And my soul knows very well.

Romans 12:2 NKJV And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NKJV For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that



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exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Philippians 4:8,13 NKJV Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

JOIN the characters in the UNRAVELED-REWOVEN TRILOGY as they face the battle for their minds and overcome the labels and formidable odds place on them.

Luke 1:37 NKJV For with God nothing will be impossible.



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