

IDENTITY



*In my experience with years of counseling, if I were to narrow it down to one thing at the heart of the struggles in life, it is a lack of understanding of **IDENTITY**.*

We confuse what we do, good or bad, with our identity. However, what we do defines our behavior or interest, not who we are. We are beautifully and wonderfully made in the image of God, male and female.

Genesis 1: 27, 31 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. 31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

*As I have said in past articles, I see humankind as a miraculous creation of Almighty God. Those who believe in the Lord and what he has done to provide salvation and an intimate relationship with Him are honored to become **children of God**. The rest remain a **creation of God**.*

John 3:16 NKJV 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.

*We are made in the image of God, male and female, and God called it **good**. As a child of God, I embrace this reality as fact. God is clear and precise. He is of love, power, peace, justice, and sovereign in His ways.*

*Do not be deceived by the world and the evil influences that have many confused about their **identity**. For those who are not children of God, the unbelieving, they remain a creation of God.*

2 Corinthians 4:4 “In whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Isaiah 5:20-21 Woe to those who call evil good and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! 21 Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight!

We all battle in our minds, wrestling with negative self-talk. We war with demonic/evil influences outside our heads. We hear thoughts and voices in the first person, trying to deceive us with lies about the identity of ourselves, others, and God. “I don’t belong; I am misunderstood. I’m not good enough. I will never measure up. I am too fat, too thin, too shapely, too poor, too...etc.”

It is easy to fill in the blank because we are familiar with this battle for our minds.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NIV – 3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have the divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.





Presently the list of confusion, deceptions, compromise, and lies grows. The Bible warns us to take every thought captive. Replace the lies with truth and the word of God because it is the **truth that sets us free**.

1 Peter 5:8-9 NKJV Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. **9** Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

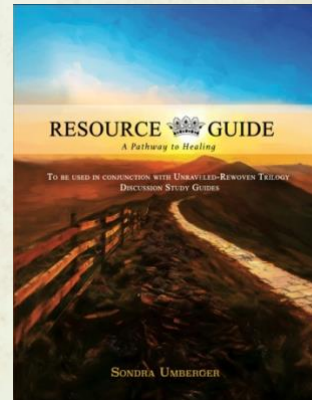
John 10:10 NKJV The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

Do not be blinded by lies and deception of the enemy or the world's confusion. Choose today to invite the Lord into your heart and life. The Lord desires that no one perishes.

2 Peter 3:9 NASB9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

*If you are a child of God, love others by sharing the hope and life you have in Jesus Christ.
Blessings,
Sondra*

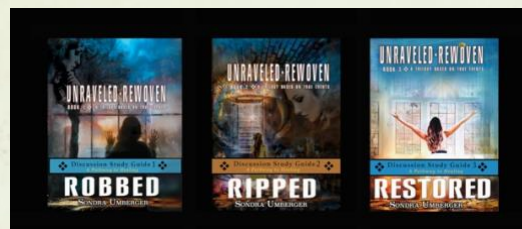
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