MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS MAY 9, 2021 // MOTHER'S DAY MESSAGE

Marty and Kim dedicated the message on Mother's Day to all women, regardless of age, status, or stage of life, reminding us that our identity is determined by, and found in, God alone. So much in culture blurs our identity through comparison, what others think of us, and even our self-talk which can be negative and damaging.

Marty and Kim taught about several women in the bible who understood their identity one way (based on things outside of God), and then God impacted their lives and they're identity and perceived value was reoriented and right-sized. Knowing and believing our true identity comes through knowing God through his word and prayer. When we anchor our identity to who God is, these truths influence our lives:

- Your value comes from God
- He can and will use you in your current role and circle of influence
- He will equip you for all that you are called to do
- He will always be with you

The fact that I am a woman does not make me a different kind of Christian, but the fact that I am a Christian does make me a different kind of woman. For I have accepted God's idea of me, and my whole life is an offering back to Him of all that I am and all that He wants me to be." - Elisabeth Elliot, Let Me Be a Woman

SCRIPTURE: VARIOUS

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect." - Romans 12:2 NLT

"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" - 2 Corinthians 5:17 NLT

"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." - Ephesians 2:10 NLT

"Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think." - Ephesians 3:20 NLT

"This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:9 NLT



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What new thoughts did you have while listening to Marty and Kim's message?
- 2. What has shaped your identity, both in the past and currently?
- 3. Read Romans 12:2. What does this say about basing our identity on culture, or anything outside what God says about us?
- 4. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 2:10, 3:20, and Joshua 1:9 and answer the following:a. Where is your identity rooted? How does this determine your value?
 - b. When are we useful to God? What does this look like in your life?
 - c. Where does the power come from that enables us to do God's work? How have you, and can you, rely on that power?
 - d. What comfort do you receive from Joshua 1:9?
- 5. Our identity is always under attack. How can you reinforce and remain focused on your true identity and value?
- 6. How can we pray for you?

PRAYER

Ask God to make your worthiness, your value, clear to you. Seek God's will for how he can use you in your current role(s), and to equip you and give you strength and power to carry out his work. Pray that God's word will be louder than the voices in your life that try to understate or overstate your worth. Commit to rooting your identity in the Lord, and offering back to him nothing less than all of you.