

# I Am Made by God

Lesson 03 of the series "Identity"

"For we are God's workmanship (handiwork, masterpiece) created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

## A. I am made by God.

1. I am created in God's image.

Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like ourselves. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground." So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:26-27 (NLT)

2. I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:13-14 (NIV)

\*\*\*WARNING\*\*\* False identity. I am a mistake. God didn't make me right.

"What sorrow awaits those who argue with their Creator. Does a clay pot argue with its maker? Does the clay dispute with the one who shapes it, saying, 'Stop, you're doing it wrong!' Does the pot exclaim, 'How clumsy can you be?' How terrible it would be if a newborn baby said to its father, 'Why was I born?' or if it said to its mother, 'Why did you make me this way?'" Isaiah 45:9-10 (NLT)

3. I am very valuable to God.

"He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession." James 1:18 (NLT)

"What is the price of five sparrows—two copper coins? Yet God does not forget a single one of them. And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows." Luke 12:6-7 (NLT)

\*\*\*WARNING\*\*\* False identity. I am worthless. God doesn't care about me.

"The LORD has deserted us; the Lord has forgotten us." "Never! Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for the child she has borne? But even if that were possible, I would not forget you! See, I have written your name on the palms of my hands." Isaiah 49:14-16 (NLT)

## B. Because I am made by God...

1. God knows all about my failures and my weaknesses and loves me anyway.

"The LORD looks down from heaven and sees the whole human race...He made their hearts, so he understands everything they do." Psalm 33:13,15 (NLT)

"The LORD is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him. For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only dust." Psalm 103:13-14 (NLT)

"For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him." John 3:16-17 (NLT)

2. God knows all about my failures and my weaknesses and chooses to use me anyway.

"Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God."

1 Corinthians 1:26-29 (NLT)

\*\*\*WARNING\*\*\* False identity. I am defective. God can use others but he can't use me.

But Moses pleaded with the LORD, "O Lord, I'm not very good with words. I never have been, and I'm not now, even though you have spoken to me. I get tongue-tied, and my words get tangled." Then the LORD asked Moses, "Who makes a person's mouth? ...Is it not I, the LORD? Now go! I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you in what to say." But Moses again pleaded, "Lord, please! Send anyone else." Exodus 4:10-13 (NLT)

3. God has plans for me.

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)

"The LORD will work out his plans for my life— for your faithful love, O LORD, endures forever."

Psalm 138:8 (NLT)

*Life Application:* In order to discover God's plans for my life I must surrender, listen, pray, obey.

The LORD says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you. Do not be like a senseless horse or mule that needs a bit and bridle to keep it under control."

Psalm 32:8-9 (NLT)

4. God will supply everything I need.

"And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19 (NLT)

"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need."

Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

### **Connect Group Discussion Questions:**

1. Have you ever made something that turned out really good? What was it? How did you feel about it?
2. Read Genesis 1:26-27. What do you think it means for us to be made in the image of God? What do you think God is like?
3. Read Luke 12:6-7 and Psalm 139:13-14. Why do many Christians feel like they are worthless even though James 1:18 says that we God's prized possessions? How do we overcome this false belief?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-29. Why does God choose to use us even though our track record is less than stellar? What can we say to those who feel that God cannot use them?
5. Do you believe that God has plans for your life? Why? / Why not? How do we discover God's plans for us? How can we help each other live out God's plans for us?
6. What would Centerpoint Fellowship Church look like if all of us began to understand how much God loves us? (See Ephesians 3:14-21)
7. Read Matthew 28:19-20. What is one purpose all believers have in common? How can we fulfill this purpose in everyday life?

#### Quotes to Ponder:

"The LORD directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the LORD holds them by the hand." David in Psalm 37:23-24

"So much has been given to me I have not time to ponder over that which has been denied." Helen Keller

"I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, exalted for you, or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing: I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen." John Wesley