

Notes:

Identity Theft

Part 3

“I am Appreciated”

Ephesians 1:15-23

Why is understanding our true identity as being ‘In Christ’ healthy?

I. Appreciated

1. To be a Believer is to be one who appreciates Jesus

2. The Believer is one whom Jesus appreciates

“For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you...”

(Eph 1:15-16NIV)

God sees, knows, and appreciates all.

Encouragement from people may never come, but Jesus appreciates you.

We have Community Groups throughout the Denver Metro area. You can find a listing of these groups online at www.fbc.org/smallgroups. For more information or questions, please call Ceely Ann Lonergan at 303.424.2121, ext. 92407 or ceelyann.lonergan@fbc.org.

Please feel free to come down to the front for prayer after service.

“...pray for one another...” James 5:16

II. Knowing you are appreciated changes your life and your reaction to circumstances.

Examples:

1. Appreciated people exchange grumbling for prayer.

The key to overcoming your grumbling is to know that you are loved, cared for, and appreciated.

2. Appreciated people exchange competing for celebrating.

Ephesians 1:17-20

- a. Always appreciate who Jesus is and what He's done for you.
- b. Always appreciate what Jesus has done for others.

Don't compete - celebrate

"...but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves are not wise."

(2 Cor. 10:12)

3. Appreciated people exchange bitterness for thankfulness.

Ephesians 1:21-23

When you know that Jesus appreciates you, and you know He wants us to appreciate and love the church (family of God), it frees you from the bitterness trap.

4. Appreciated people exchange performing for serving.

"just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,..."

(Matthew 20:28)

5. Appreciated people exchange boasting for encouraging.

Three things that can happen when you feel unappreciated:

1. Be obsessed about making known everything that you do.
2. Exaggerate
3. Lie

Once we realize that the Lord Jesus appreciates us, our heart is full and able to appreciate others.

Who do you need to thank and appreciate this week?