IDENTITY THEFT Week 1 Devotional

Weekly Challenge — Replace the Lie with the Truth

This week, take an index card and write down one lie or negative label you have believed about yourself. On the other side, write a Scripture that declares God's truth about your identity. Place the card somewhere you will see it every day. Each morning, read the Scripture aloud and declare God's truth over your life.

Remember: Your past may explain where you have been, but it does not have to define who you are becoming in Christ.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

Weekly declaration: I am not defined by my past, my failures, my fears, or the opinions of others. I belong to Jesus Christ. His presence is with me, His power is at work in me, and His truth defines who I am. I will no longer live in excuses. I will walk in His promises!

Monday — Remembering Whose We Are: Judges 6:1–13; 1 Peter 2:9–10

Reflection: Gideon was hiding in a winepress, living in fear of the Midianites. Israel had wandered from God, and their circumstances had caused them to forget who they were as His chosen people. Like Israel, we can slowly allow our circumstances, accomplishments, possessions, relationships, and even our failures to define us. But our identity was never meant to be found in what we have, what we do, or what others think of us. Our identity is rooted in the One to whom we belong. Before we can rediscover who we are, we must remember whose we are.

Journaling Questions:

1. What things in my life have I allowed to define my identity instead of my relationship with God?
2. How have difficult circumstances caused me to question God's presence or His promises?
3. What does 1 Peter 2:9–10 reveal about who I am as someone who belongs to God?

Prayer Prompt: *Father, forgive me for allowing the things of this world to define who I am. Remind me that my true identity is found in belonging to You. Help me recognize where I have lost sight of Your promises and restore my confidence in Your faithful love. Amen.*

Tuesday — Silencing the Voices That Steal Our Identity: Judges 6:14–15; Romans 12:2; John 8:31–32

Reflection: When God called Gideon a mighty warrior, Gideon responded by describing everything he believed disqualified him. He saw himself through the lens of weakness, insignificance, and his family's position. We often do the same. Voices from our past, painful experiences, criticism, rejection, and even our own thoughts can convince us that we are inadequate. Over time, those voices become the lies we believe about ourselves. But just because a voice has spoken over your life does not mean it has the authority to define your life. God's truth must become louder than the lies we have believed.

Journaling Questions:

1. What negative labels or lies have I accepted about myself because of my past or the words of others?
2. How have these beliefs influenced my decisions, relationships, or willingness to serve God?
3. What specific truth from God's Word can I begin speaking over myself to replace those lies?

Prayer Prompt: *Lord, reveal the lies I have believed about myself. Help me recognize the voices that contradict Your Word and give me the courage to reject them. Renew my mind with Your truth so I can begin seeing myself as You see me. Amen.*

Wednesday — No More Excuses: Exodus 3:10–14; Exodus 4:10–12; Judges 6:14–16

Reflection: When God called Moses, he asked, "Who am I?" When God called Gideon, he questioned how someone from such an insignificant family could possibly deliver Israel. Both men focused on their limitations, but God directed their attention to His presence. God does not wait until we have all the answers, overcome every weakness, or feel completely qualified before He calls us. His calling is not dependent on our abilities but on His power working through us. We can choose to live in our excuses, or we can walk in the promises of God. Excuses keep us focused on what we cannot do. Faith moves us toward what God can do through us.

Journaling Questions:

1. What excuses have I been using to avoid something God has been calling me to do?
2. What fears, insecurities, or past experiences are hiding behind those excuses?
3. What is one practical step of obedience I can take today instead of waiting until I feel ready?

Prayer Prompt: *Father, forgive me for the times I have allowed excuses to keep me from obedience. Help me stop focusing on my limitations and start trusting Your strength. Give me courage to take the next step, knowing You will be with me. Amen.*

Thursday — Seeing Yourself Through God's Eyes: Judges 6:11–16; 1 Samuel 16:6–13; Ephesians 2:10

Reflection: When the angel of the LORD greeted Gideon, he called him a "mighty warrior." Yet Gideon was hiding in fear. God was speaking to Gideon according to the calling He had placed upon his life, not merely his present circumstances. When Samuel came to anoint Israel's next king, David was not even initially brought before him. Others saw a young shepherd boy, but God saw the future king. People may see your past, your failures, your weaknesses, or your limitations. God sees someone He created with purpose, someone He can transform and use for His glory. Do not allow the opinions of others to have more authority over your identity than the Word of God.

Journaling Questions:

1. How does my view of myself differ from what God's Word says about me?
2. Where have I allowed my background, past failures, or other people's expectations to limit what I believe God can do through me?
3. What gifts, opportunities, or areas of service might God be calling me to embrace with renewed confidence?

Prayer Prompt: *Lord, teach me to see myself through Your eyes rather than through my insecurities or the opinions of others. Thank You for creating me with purpose. Help me embrace who You have called me to be and faithfully use what You have entrusted to me. Amen.*

Friday — His Presence Changes Everything: Judges 6:14–16; Isaiah 41:9–10; 2 Corinthians 12:9–10

Reflection: God's answer to Gideon's insecurity was not a list of his qualifications. It was a promise: "I will be with you." That same assurance was given to Moses and countless others throughout Scripture. God's presence is what makes the difference between living defeated by our fears and stepping forward in faith. We may never feel strong enough, gifted enough, or prepared enough. But God's power is made perfect in weakness. Our confidence does not come from believing we can accomplish anything on our own. It comes from trusting the God who promises to walk with us. Recovering our identity means learning to live in the reality of God's power and presence rather than remaining trapped by our limitations.

Journaling Questions:

1. What situation in my life currently feels bigger than my ability to handle it?
2. How would my attitude or actions change if I fully trusted that God was present with me in that situation?
3. What would it look like for me to depend on God's strength rather than my own abilities today?

Prayer Prompt: *Heavenly Father, thank You that Your presence is greater than my weaknesses. Help me stop measuring life's challenges by my abilities and begin measuring them by Your faithfulness. Fill me with courage and confidence as I learn to walk in Your strength. Amen.*

Saturday — Reclaiming Your God-Given Identity: 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 4:22–24; Philippians 3:12–14

Reflection: Gideon's account reminds us that God calls us beyond the limitations we have placed upon ourselves. We do not have to remain prisoners of our past, our failures, or the lies we have believed. Through Jesus Christ, we are made new. Our old identity no longer has to determine our future. We can put off the old self, renew our minds, and begin walking in the new life Christ has given us. But recovering our identity requires a response. We must intentionally reject the lies, embrace God's truth, and take steps of obedience. It is time to stop living according to who you used to be and start walking in who God has called you to become. Speak God's truth over your life. When the old voices return, answer them with His Word. When fear rises, remember His promises. When excuses appear, choose obedience.

Journaling Questions:

1. What old identity, label, excuse, or false belief do I need to surrender to God once and for all?
2. What specific biblical truth will I begin declaring over my life each day?
3. What concrete action will I take this week to begin walking more fully in who God has called me to be?

Prayer Prompt: *Father, today I surrender every false identity I have carried. I reject the lies of the enemy, the labels of my past, and the excuses that have held me back. Thank You for making me new through Jesus Christ. Help me live each day in the truth of who I am in You. Give me courage to step forward in faith, walk in obedience, and fulfill Your calling on my life. Amen.*