

No more Identity crisis! Ex.3:1-15

Some people struggle with their own identity. People's identity may be tied to their career, accomplishments in life, spouse, parents, looks, etc. A person whose identity is connected to their job or career may suffer an identity crisis when they lose their job.

In the movie "**The Bourne Identity**" stars Matt Damon as Jason **Bourne**, a man suffering from extreme memory loss and attempting to discover his true **identity** amidst a clandestine conspiracy within the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). Jason Bourne doesn't really know who he is despite the skill sets he knows he has

I know a woman who chose to join a different church from the one her parents and relatives attend. She grew up on this church but she chose to go with her own family to another one where no one really knows her that well. She wanted to find her own identity there; there she can be herself without having been to be associated with the rest of the family. *Identity crises can lead people to self-pity, suicide, also to compare themselves with others.*

The Bible tells us of people who experienced identity crisis in their lives. However, these people were used by God in mighty ways, once they got passed their struggles with whom they were.

Moses was born when the king of Egypt decided to kill all the male Hebrew babies. Moses was saved by his mom who put him on a basket to float down the river. Pharaoh's daughter had come to the river and heard a crying baby. She got the basket and realized it was one of the Hebrews' babies. She named the baby Moses and raised him in Egypt as her own son. Moses was educated in Egypt. However. One day Moses saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew and Moses came to his rescue and ended up killing the Egyptian and burying him in the sand. The next day two Hebrews were arguing and Moses came to make peace among them and one of them said, who made you judge and ruler among us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday? Moses realized that it wasn't a secret anymore, so he fled from Egypt and went to the land of Midian (Saudi Arabia). There Moses settled down. He married and had two sons. He worked for his father in law Jethro. This was for Moses a fresh start in his life. He left Egypt behind to never return there.

Moses encounter with God: Moses had an encounter with God while he was shepherding the flock of his father in law. God appeared to Moses from a burning bush and this encounter with Moses changed his life. **In the dialogue between Moses and God we find two fundamental questions which you and I need to know how we answer them.** These questions are so foundational that eternity is based on getting the right answer.

Ex.3:1-14

God catches Moses' attention through this burning bush. Moses goes to check out why the bush is on fire but is not being consumed. God calls him from the flame of fire. *Moses, Moses. Don't come any closer; take off the sandals of your feet because you are standing on holy ground.*

God introduced himself to Moses (v.6) I am the God of your ancestors Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Moses was afraid and he hid his face from God. God came down to meet Moses to send him on a mission to Egypt. God told Moses about the plan he had to rescue his people from slavery (7-10) **(v.10) SO now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt**

THE FIRST FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION

Who are you?

Who I am? You need to wrestle with this question, who are you really?

Moses told God, who am I that I should go to Egypt? I am no body to go back there; I am not the right person to go see the king of Egypt. Egypt was far from Moses's radar. I am just a shepherd. I don't have the experience, the knowledge and the speech to go see the king of Egypt. In other words, God, you got the wrong person.

We at times feel like Moses, we feel God cannot use us because of our past. It's obvious that God sees and knows something we don't.

When you're not sure who you are in life. Then it's time to hear what God told Moses. When Moses said, Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh?

God's answer to Moses: (v12) I will be with you. God told Moses that he will be with him and will give him success on his journey to and back.

"From the very beginning God's people are known as those whose God is with them. We belong to Him, and there is no way we can define ourselves apart from God. It is his presence in us that enables us to accomplish the tasks he gives us." (Francis Chan-Multiply)

Moses didn't understand much about God because he had not dealt with God much yet. Yes God already told him that he is the God of his forefathers. Moses didn't really know what this God is capable of doing and he asked the other fundamental question that you and I need to have the right answer to it.

What is your name? 2nd fundamental question: Who is God?

God answered: I am who I am. I AM is my name. Tell the people I Am has sent you.

I AM (The LORD, Yahweh, Jehovah). This is God's personal name by which he relates to his people. It is used over six thousand times in the Old Testament

You and I have an appropriate name to describe ourselves; we became or came into existence. But God's name is He is who he is. He has always existed and will always continue to be.

When you feel downcast because of life's struggles; when you don't really know who you are then it's time for you to remember who you belong to. *You are God's child. You can't define yourself apart from him. You live because of him.*

Paul said to a group of people in Athens **"in him we live and move and have our being. Acts 17:28**

Many years later Moses learned that his identity was truly found in Yahweh. In **Ex.33:15-16** Moses tells God *if your presence doesn't go with us; do not send us from here. We are not moving if you're not going with us. It is your presence that sets us apart from other people on the face of the earth.* Moses found his true identity. He finally knew who he was and who God is.

How about you today, is your identity being built on your finance? Your job? your family name? All those things are temporary, they may be gone from you tomorrow and so your own identity. But if your identity is in the LORD, it will carry you through the ends of time. ***Your identity, who you are needs to be found in Who God is.*** Moses and the Israelites were known as the children of God. This was their new identity. They knew who they were and they knew Yahweh their God. **God told them I will be your God and you will be my people.**

God is giving the whole world a chance to be found in him, to be his people. God is giving you the chance to be made part of his family through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

John 1:11-12 *He came to his own people and his own people didn't receive him. But to all who received him, to those who believe in his name he gave the right to become children of God.*

The Christians, the children of God have their identity in Christ, our Lord and Savior. It is this identity that will get you to spend eternity with him.

Whatever you think you are apart from Christ will not last; it will not take you to heaven. It is because our new identity in Him that we will enjoy heaven and the rewards Jesus went to prepare for his people.

If you struggle with identity crisis is because you don't know the Great I AM very well. Once you get to know God, then you will know who you truly are in Him.