THE BATTLE FOR YOUR IDENTITY



SERIES TITLE: The Battle For Your Identity

SERMON TITLE: Children of God

SERIES KEY TEXT (NKJV, NLT): Genesis 3:1-8 NKJV

OTHER TEXTS (NKJV): John 3:5-8, John 8:44, 1 Peter 1:23, Matthew 10:28, Matthew 7:9-11, Hebrews 12:4-6, Proverbs 3:11-12, Romans 8:16-17, 1 Peter 1:23-25.

Big Idea: Our identity is at the center of a spiritual battle. The enemy seeks to deceive us into believing lies about ourselves, making us feel deficient and tempting us to seek fulfillment outside of God's truth. However, God has already spoken powerful truths about who we are: loved, valued, forgiven, and made in His image. We must be equipped to stand firm in our God-given identity, countering lies with His Word. Just as Jesus overcame temptation by holding onto God's truth, we can also confidently reject false identities and live out the fullness of who God has declared us to be.

In the second sermon of the series, Pastor Walker highlights the process of becoming a child of God through regeneration and adoption. Our identity as children of God is rooted in this truth.

Genesis 3:1-8 NKJV

Now, the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree, which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So, when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

God Bless You!

The Connection Groups Office

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<u>Leader Heads-Up</u>: Happy New Year! Before we start 'Start Talking,' check who's present and take attendance to kick off the fun!

A. Start Talking

What is the one area of your life (spiritual, personal, or relational) you want to grow in, and how can your group support and encourage you throughout the year?

B. Start Thinking

- 1. The Bible teaches that God is the Father of all believers in Jesus Christ. What is the basis of your relationship? (Explain how you have the right to call Him 'Father').
- 2. Read Galatians 4:6 NKJV. How will you embrace your relationship with God as your Father in your daily life? What action will you take this week to deepen your connection with Him?
- **3.** Read **Romans 8:16 NKJV**. What lies about your identity will you reject in light of this scripture? In what practical ways will you remind yourself of this truth daily?

Start Praying

Pray that you will walk in your identity as a child of God.

C. Start Doing

- **1.** Embrace your identity as a Child of God by receiving the truth of regeneration through faith in Jesus.
- **2.** Allow the Holy Spirit to affirm your adoption into God's family, crying out "Abba, Father" in prayer and daily dependence.
- **3.** Live as a reflection of God's character by demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit in your interactions with others.
- **4.** Trust in God's provision, care, and correction as the perfect Father who shapes your life for His purpose.

Help us spread the word! Share this link with MLFC members in your network who have not yet joined a group: <u>https://miraclelifefamily.churchcenter.com/groups</u>.

<u>Leader Reminder</u>: Remember to share the meeting highlights in the Church Center App so everyone can stay in the loop via: https://miraclelifefamily.churchcenter.com/people/forms/604025

SCHOOL FOR LIFE: Sign up via https://miraclelifefamily.churchcenter.com/registrations