

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." <u>Jeremiah 1:5</u> (NIV)

## Thought for today...

Who are you? What's your identity? The world would have us believe that our identity is how we define ourselves — our personality, values, beliefs, abilities, and so on. There are those who believe that who they

are is based on their accomplishments (or lack thereof), and when asked who they are, will respond by saying what they do, rather than who they are.



The world would have us judge ourselves (and others), by using a faulty measuring scale and a nonsensical point system. Single? Deduct 3 points. Married? Add 7 points. Married with no children? Deduct 5 points. Jobless? Deduct 10 points. Employed? Add 6 points but deduct 8 points if the position is a job rather than a profession or career.

Ridiculous though this may seem, it is likely that at some point in our lives, we have succumbed to using our own version of the worlds identity checker.

It is good for us to set goals and aspire to achieve them! However, there are those who will seek to do so simply to demonstrate to others that they are 'somebody' or that they have 'arrived'.

As followers of Christ, our identity—who we are—should not be shaped by the world, but rather, by who God says we are. God's Word tells me that:

I am a child of God. 'The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.' Romans 8:16

I am more than a conqueror. 'Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.' Romans 8:37

I am loved. 'For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.' John 3:16

I am complete. 'And ye are complete in Him, which is the head of all principality and power:' Colossians 2:10

I am God's handiwork. 'For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.' Ephesians 2:10

I am the righteousness of God in Christ. <u>2 Corinthians 5:21</u> 'For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.'

I am a new creation. 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.' 2 Corinthians 5:17

I am an ambassador for Christ. 'Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.' <u>2 Corinthians 5:20</u>

I am chosen. "Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in My name, He may give it you." John 15:16

So, the next time the question concerning your identity is raised, or someone asks "Who are you?"; what will your answer be?