

Who Am I?

Who Am I - Week 1 (3-13-24)

Matt. 16:13-19

I. Blessed

- A. 1 Corinthians 12:3 you cannot say that Jesus is Lord without the Holy Spirit.
 - 1. Blessed because you're hearing from God.
- B. When you know who Jesus is you know truth.
 - 1. "...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." - John 14:6
 - a) When you know truth you know freedom - John 8:32
- C. God knows exactly who you are and what your calling is, and so does the enemy. - Jeremiah 29:11
 - 1. Ultimately what determines if you live in that identity and calling is what you decide about Jesus and then about yourself.
 - 2. We can't know who we are until we know who God is.
 - a) He is our creator and we are made in His image. - Gen 1:27
 - (1) The quickest way to found out about an invention is to go to the designer.
 - (a) Acts 17:28
 - 3. God's promises and power flows to those who know who Jesus is. He is our access to the things of God.
 - a) If you know who Jesus is you know your source of life, peace, healing, wisdom, etc. You're empowered to live and prosper when you submit to who Jesus is.
 - 4. Who do YOU say He is?

II. Transformed

- A. Transformation has to take place.
 - 1. Trans = across, beyond, on the other side, or so as to change completely.
 - 2. Because of our Transgression, Transformation must take place.
 - a) Transgress = to go beyond a boundary or limit.
 - b) You MUST be born again to inherit eternal life
 - c) Romans 12:1-2
 - (1) The fallen nature of this world wants us to conform to it's ways.
 - (a) Being conformed hints at being influenced by external forces. Squeezed into a mold.
 - (2) The Transformation that Paul is speaking of takes place from the inside out.
- B. Knowing Who Jesus was led to Peter's change in identity, but it was initiated by Jesus Himself. This is not the first time we see in scripture that someone's name was changed when they encountered God.
 - 1. Transformation has phases
 - a) Peter did not immediately become the rock that Jesus was calling him to be.
 - b) Abraham did not automatically become a father of many nations.

III. Keys to the Kingdom

- A. Jesus is building His church with people who know who they are because they know who Jesus is.
- B. Keys mean access and authority
 - 1. We have been given access to the kingdom of heaven, and the authority to bind and loose.
 - 2. With power and authority comes responsibility.
 - a) If things are not being loosed or bound in your life that should, don't blame it on God. He gave YOU the keys.
 - b) If you don't know who you are, you will always submit to the enemy.
 - c) James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."
(1) 1Peter 5:6-8
 - 3. God intends for His church to be the influencers, not the influenced.