

A 6-week Devotional about Who You Are in Jesus

IN CASE
YOU
FORGET

HANNAH R. CONWAY



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FORGET**

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To my daughters, Jadelyn and Willa.

I love you. Remember who you are and whose you are.
You are His. Hold tight to this truth forever,
and let it permeate every aspect of your lives.



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Introduction

The world has so much to say about who girls should be. Girls like you grow up hearing conflicting messages from social media, videos, magazines, celebrities, family, friends, and culture. Voices everywhere try to convince you of who you are, who you should be, how you should act, look, sound, dress, and more. It can be downright confusing. I might even call it an identity crisis.

So who are you?

If you're a follower of Jesus Christ, then your identity is in him! When Jesus died for our sins, he gave us the right to be called God's child (John 1:12). Before you are a daughter, a friend, a student, a girlfriend, a profile online, or anyone else, you are a child of God. You belong to him, and only his opinion matters. It's not a question of *who* you are but *whose* you are.

Over the next six weeks, we will learn truths from the Bible about who you are in Christ and what it means to be a child of God. I will show you Scripture about your identity, tell you stories, ask you questions, and challenge you to study the Bible so that you remember who God says you are. Grab a pen and a notebook to answer questions each day and write down what God is teaching you about your identity in Christ.



As you travel through life, I pray you'll carry these truths as if you stuffed them in a suitcase, unpacking them whenever you need them and sharing them with others you meet on your way. When the world tries to tell you who you should be, remember, you are a child of God.


God bless you!

Hannah

***"May the LORD bless you and protect you; may the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; may the LORD look with favor on you and give you peace."
Numbers 6:24-26***



Week 1

A decorative wreath of purple and white flowers on a dark blue background. The wreath is composed of various types of flowers, including purple pansies, purple and white daisies, and purple and white five-petaled flowers, all with green leaves. The flowers are arranged in a circular pattern, framing the central text.

*“Remember what happened
long ago, for I am God, and
there is no other; I am God,
and no one is like me.”*

Isaiah 46:9



Made in God's Image

So God created man in his own image; he created him in the image of God; he created them male and female.

Genesis 1:27

I was obsessed with horses as a child. I would hover over blank sheets of paper for hours, attempting to create the exact image of a horse. First, I used tracing paper to really get the details down. Eyes squinted and teeth clamped, I got close. Yet my attempts were amateur. The drawings were never *exact* images. They could not be.

Did you know that you and I were not only created by God, but we also were created in the *image* of God? The teachers of the early church called this the *imago dei*, or the image of God. He is the artist, and he is no elementary school-aged amateur scribbling, tracing, and struggling to get the details right.

Did you know there is not a person on this planet you have met who is not made in God's image? Read that sentence again.

Christians have worked for centuries to determine what it means to be made in God's image. Book after book has been written on the subject. You may think it is about how we look, but it is more about our souls than our physical bodies. God is the creator, and he gave us the ability to create. God exists in the perfect community of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (the Trinity), and he created us to be in community with



one another. God brought order into the world, and he helps us bring order into our lives. We are all like little reflections of God.

Being created in God's image can remind you of your value and of the value of others. Everyone in this world is made in God's image, so everyone in the world has inherent dignity and is worthy of respect and honor. Even our enemies (or frenemies) are made in God's image and deserve our respect, honor, love, and kindness. It might seem impossible to be kind to someone who is unkind to us or who makes us mad, but all things are possible with God. He can help you love even the most unloving person.

So whether you are making a video, drawing something awesome for a school project, or writing in your notebook, smile a little bigger today.

Remember, you are made in the image of God, and so is everyone around you!





In Case You Want to . . .

Reflect

1. Who do you struggle to believe is made in God's image? Pray that God would change your heart.
2. Everyone is made in the image of God. How does knowing that affect the way you treat others? How does it change the way you treat yourself?

Take a moment to thank God for making you in his image. This is such an honor! Ask him to help you see other people as made in God's image too. If there is someone you are struggling to respect or be kind to, ask God to help you see them the way he does.

Keep Reading

Read Colossians 3:1–10. We reflect God's image, but only one person showed (and shows) God's image perfectly—Jesus. For those who are in Christ or following Jesus, what are we supposed to “put to death” or stop doing? (Hint: read verses 5–9.) What are we supposed to “put on”? Whose image do we reflect? (Read verse 10.)



Forgiven

"I am the one, I sweep away your transgressions for my own sake and remember your sins no more."

Isaiah 43:25

I spent my wedding day avoiding food because it might stain my beautiful dress. I was slightly paranoid. Why? Because stains on white are impossible to remove, and I am a magnet for messes. There I sat in my beautiful, sparkling-white wedding dress, stomach grumbling as I stared at the food. Someone slid a plate in front of me. My mouth watered. Did I dare? *One bite.* The food was BBQ, meatballs, and mushrooms. If I dropped one bite, it would stain my dress forever! Maybe there was some sort of bib I could wear that would cover my entire dress? Short of using a tablecloth, I was out of luck.

I watched my husband eat, my bridesmaids eat, the groomsmen chow down, and all the guests eat, smiles on their faces. *Yes, I had to have one bite.* With surgeon-like precision, I cut my food and took micro-nibbles!

Sin, or doing things our way instead of God's, is like a heavy stain on a white wedding dress. Unlike my dress obsession on my wedding day though, we can do nothing to avoid sin. We are all born with its stain on our hearts. We can scrub with all the best cleaners, but the stain is still



there. Nothing we try can remove our sin. Worst of all, our sin separates us from God.

Psalms 51:7 says, “Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.” The psalmist is asking God to wash away his sins. We need someone who can remove our sins for us. Isaiah, a prophet who lived before Jesus, wrote our sins are “transgressions.” That means they are crimes, offenses, or felonies. Sin is a *big* deal. But God says he will sweep our crime away and remember our sins no more! He removes our sin-stain permanently.

One of Jesus’s followers said in 1 John 1:9, “If we confess our sins, he [God] is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” Jesus’s sacrifice makes forgiveness of our sin-stain possible. We confess, or admit, we are wrong and need God’s help and believe that Jesus’s sacrifice is enough to save us. In return, he removes our sin-stain. He takes it away.

You may be aware of your transgressions. You may think you are so stained by sin that you can never be clean. That is a lie. The truth is there is no stain too messy for Jesus. God’s forgiveness is greater than our biggest crime. We are forgiven. Forgiven! Our sins have been washed and scrubbed away, removed. No trace of them remains anymore. It is like we are whiter than my wedding dress—no stains at all!

Remember, when God sees us, he sees the perfection of his Son, Jesus.





In Case You Want to . . .

Reflect

1. In your own words, explain how sin is like a stain.
2. In your own words, how does God get rid of our sin-stain?
3. Why is it important for us to ask Jesus to remove our stain of sin?

When God scrubs away sin's stain, it is gone forever! If you are a child of God and have decided to follow Jesus, thank God for removing the stain of sin from your life. Ask him to show you how you can share this good news with others!

Keep Reading

Read Psalm 103:8–13. Your version of the Bible may use the phrase “fear God.” The word *fear* means respect. It also means regarding someone highly enough that you follow them and what they say. Knowing this, what do you think it means that God has compassion on those who fear him?



Pursued

*“For the Son of Man [Jesus] has come
to seek and to save the lost.”*

Luke 19:10

The mission was simple—find the golden pumpkin. My church planned a free, interactive, city-wide scavenger hunt for our community. Teams of families, friends, and coworkers wore matching shirts and made up funny team names. They knew their objective and were ready to win the coveted prize: a golden (spray-painted) pumpkin and gift cards!

As they searched for the pumpkin, each team carefully followed their leader’s instructions. After teams completed tasks, their leaders sent new clues and challenges. For over an hour, the teams relentlessly pursued that pumpkin. They met many obstacles along the way: stop-lights, traffic jams, and road construction were enough to test their will and even their faith that they would find it. Still, they kept going.

You and I are like the golden pumpkin. We are pursued. Not by teams of focused scavenger hunters—we are of far greater value than a spray-painted pumpkin. We are pursued by God!

In fact, God has been pursuing us since sin separated us from him in the garden of Eden. God sent Jesus to earth to “seek and save the lost.” He wants everyone to know him (2 Peter 3:9).



Jesus went to great lengths to seek us. There is a famous story in Luke 15 called the parable of the lost sheep. Jesus told about a shepherd with one hundred sheep, but one was missing. That sheep would not survive long on its own. It needed to be rescued before it died or was killed by a predator.

So the shepherd left the other sheep that were together and safe, trudged into a dangerous wilderness, put himself in harm's way, and searched until he found the lost one. It was like an ancient scavenger hunt.

Jesus is like that good shepherd, but better. He is the God who will not stop searching for his people. It does not matter how long it takes; God cares for us too much to ever leave even one of us out on our own. Once we are found, we get to follow him, pursuing him too. Every time we talk to God, study the Bible, memorize Scripture, serve others in his name, and worship with other believers, we pursue God. And as we seek, or pursue, God, he makes us more like him (2 Corinthians 3:18). Our search for a golden pumpkin was nothing compared to Jesus's pursuit of one of his children.

Remember, God is pursuing us, and we can follow him in return.





In Case You Want to . . .

Reflect

1. What do you think it means to “pursue God”?
2. How are you pursuing God in your life now? What are some ways you can search for him with enthusiasm and faithfulness?
3. What changes do you believe God is asking you to make so that you can be more like him?

Thank God for making you more like his Son. Ask God to keep changing you as you pursue Jesus.

Keep Reading

Read Ephesians 2:1–10. Paul, who was a missionary and encourager of Christians after Jesus ascended to heaven, is writing to his friends in Ephesus (modern-day Turkey). What does Paul tell the Ephesians God has done for them? (You might have more than one answer to this question, and that is great!)



A Coheir

And if children, also heirs—heirs of God and coheirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Romans 8:17

It is through stories that deep truths are told. Things in life that are hard to explain can be better understood through word pictures that engage the imagination.

So here is a story for you that tells a very deep truth. It might sound familiar. There once was a girl who, though gentle and kind with many talents, never knew her identity. She did not know where she came from or where she was going. No one told her. She always felt like her life was missing something, but she could not figure it out. One day, a limousine pulled into her driveway and some official-looking men in suits knocked at her door.

“We’re here for the daughter of the King,” one man said.

The girl squinted, crinkling her nose, as she tried to make sense of the situation. “You must have the wrong address.”

“No, miss,” said the youngest man. “*You* are the daughter of the King.”

If you have decided to follow Jesus, then you are a daughter of the King—God. And you, too, are an heir to the throne. You are an heiress.



When Jesus died on the cross for us, he made us coheirs—we inherit his inheritance! I have an adopted daughter who will receive the same inheritance as my biological children. We, too, inherit everything God has to offer because of Jesus.

Great! Where is the limo? Romans 8:17 reminds us that something else must come first. Since we will inherit what Jesus inherits, there will be times we suffer like he did. In Romans 8:18–24, God says we will have hardships in this life, but we are not alone, and one day, it will all be over. Everything will be glorious.

This may seem like a fictional fantasy, but it is not.

Remember, one day you will receive an inheritance because you are a daughter of the King.





In Case You Want to . . .

Reflect

1. Did you know Christians inherit whatever Jesus inherits? How does that make you feel?
2. What struggles are you facing?
3. Imagine an attorney called next week and said you were about to be given an inheritance. What would you hope to inherit—money? A mansion? How do those earthly things compare to the inheritance you will receive from God one day?

Take a moment and imagine all the things you will inherit from God one day. Get creative! Write your thoughts down. Pray, thanking him that one day all things will be made right, and the struggles will be worth it.

Keep Reading

Read Ephesians 3:1–13. Paul talks about a mystery that has not been made known to other generations until now. What is that mystery? (Hint: read verse 6.) How do you think Paul feels about this mystery of being a coheir? What questions do you have about being a coheir? Take your questions to a pastor or mentor.



Ruler

*You made them a kingdom and priests to our
God, and they will reign on the earth.*

Revelation 5:10

I grinned at the small plastic card in my hand. Finally, my driver's license! No more asking for rides, a little more independence, and now my older friends will take me seriously.

I was ready to rule the road!

I bounced to my car and plopped down in the driver's seat. Suddenly, my excitement waned. Wait. The gravity of what was happening fell on my shoulders. *How does turning sixteen make me capable of this? I am not a great driver. What if I crash? What if I hurt someone? I do not deserve to do this.*

In a way, I was *ruling* my part of the road. I had been given the responsibility and authority to drive. In the garden of Eden, God tasked Adam and Eve with ruling the earth and everything in it. That responsibility did not go away after they sinned. God makes us responsible to rule, reign, and care for things in our lives, big and small.

The Bible also says God's followers become coheirs of his kingdom with Jesus (Romans 8:17). They will rule for eternity. Jesus modeled how to rule in the way he sacrificially loved us and the way he cared for those in need. His rulership points us to God.



One day, God will put sin and death to death and create a new heaven and new earth. Our sin will be gone, and we will reflect Jesus even more than we do now. Instead of getting keys to a car, we get the keys to God's kingdom, and God will ask us to rule parts of that kingdom in a bigger and better way than we do now!

Talk about responsibility!

After that first day of driving, I sat in my little white car taking deep breaths. God *had* made me a ruler at that moment. Our responsibilities, whether they are having a driver's license or taking care of our rooms, our money, or our time, all point to greater responsibility. Let's reign and rule well here on earth so that we are ready for our positions in eternity.

Remember, God made you a ruler, and he gave you the best example: his Son.





In Case You Want to . . .

Reflect

1. How does it make you feel to know that one day, followers of Jesus will rule in eternity?
2. How can you reflect Jesus in the way you rule and reign in your life now?
3. Where are you “ruling” now? Are you ruling well? Explain.

Ask God to help you rule and reign in the areas of life he has put you in. He will help you! Thank him for allowing you to rule in heaven one day. That is so cool of him!

Keep Reading

Read Proverbs 4:5–27. What does wisdom have to do with being a ruler? Highlight any verses that stick out.



Filled with Power

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment.

2 Timothy 1:7

Missed again. I did not even hit the bottom of the net this time. I groaned and chased the basketball.

“That’s okay,” Dad said. “Try again.”

No matter how hard I tried, I could not make the shot. I was too short. Too little. Too weak. At least I was determined. My pigtailed flopped over my shoulder as I ran, bare feet pounding the dusty ground. Dad set the goal by our gravel drive years before, and we would play for hours. He taught my brother and me to dribble on a dirt court, along with how to pivot, throw an elbow, pick and roll, and shoot. I had nailed most of the lessons, except shooting. But this day would be different.

I snatched up the ball, dribbled back to the goal, and grinned at Dad. He knelt. His hands gripped my waist and lifted me higher and higher. I focused on the rim until I dunked that ball. Swish! Nothing but net.

“Again,” I cheered. He lifted me again and again.

I was little. I was weak. My dad was strong. He gave me the power to dunk that ball.

The Christian life is hard, but God fills his followers with power so that we can look more like his Son, Jesus. Paul reminds Timothy of



this while Paul was imprisoned in Rome. He was tired and preparing to face death. Most of his friends had abandoned him because many were embarrassed by the good news of Jesus. Paul tells Timothy to never be ashamed to tell others about God and to be ready to suffer for the sake of the good news of Jesus (2 Timothy 2:8). Timothy, like Paul, could not do it alone. God would have to empower him.

Following Jesus cost Paul everything, including his life. Though following Jesus today might not cost us our lives, hardship and sacrifice will come. Struggles are not a sign God has disappeared. Most often, in those challenging times, we feel his presence even more.

The cost of following Jesus will always be worth it (Luke 14:27–30). We cannot do it on our own, just as I could not make the shot on my own.

Remember, when we decide to follow Jesus, God fills us with his power to “make the shot,” or live for him, because we cannot do it on our own.





In Case You Want to . . .

Reflect

1. Think of a time when you could not do something on your own and needed help. Explain.
2. In your own words, explain how God helps his followers live out their faith in him.
3. If you are a child of God, how is he helping you live out your faith?

If you follow Jesus, thank him for helping you live out your faith, even when life gets difficult. Ask him to empower you to live your life for him.

Keep Reading

Read Philippians 2:12–18. In verse 12 he tells the Philippian Christians to work out their salvation with fear and trembling. This does not mean we should be scared. We should respect God so much that we *want* to obey. We are not working *for* our salvation—we are working it out or living it out by doing what God asks of us. Knowing these things, who is working in us and helping us? How does this remind us we are being filled with his power?



Valuable

“So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

Matthew 10:31

Abbey was amazing, which was why, as one of her teachers, I was perplexed when her parents requested a meeting. Their child was excelling in my class—she made perfect scores on all my tests except one, and that one was 98 percent. The meeting was a few days away, but I could sense her anxiety. One afternoon, I got called to the counselor’s office, and there Abby sat, tears flowing. She poured out her heart, sharing her battle with depression and anxiety. My heart broke.

“Who am I if I don’t get all 100s in every class?” She sobbed into her hands. “I have to be perfect.”

My heart broke more.

There is constant pressure for everyone—especially teenagers—to produce value. You must get the highest grades, be a star athlete, land the lead in the play, or have the most curated social media to prove your worth to others. Even when other people are not asking us for perfection, we ask it of ourselves.

In Matthew 10, Jesus sends his disciples out to tell people about him. He tells them some people will not want to hear, and some people might want to harm them for being Christians. (This is called persecution.) They will expect the disciples to stop making such a fuss. That is



when Jesus tells his disciples that if he takes care of a small bird, then how much more valuable are they?

We are not valuable because of our accomplishments, good grades, skills, abilities, or what anyone else thinks. We are valuable because God says so. He loves us so much that he knows how many hairs we have on our heads (Matthew 10:30), and he knows our thoughts (Psalm 139:2)! We are so valuable that while we were still sinners, God sent his one and only Son to take the punishment for our sins so that anyone who believes in Jesus can have eternal life (Romans 5:8; John 3:16). Now that is value.

There is no grade Abby could have gotten that would make her any more valuable to God than she already was (and is). The disciples were not popular or valuable according to the world's standards. They were so disliked, in fact, that they were persecuted. But when the world did not care about them, God did.

Remember, God values his people because we are his!





In Case You Want to . . .

Reflect

1. Do you place your value in things you do or accomplish? Explain.
2. In your own words, write out how valuable you are to God.
3. Write down John 3:16, but put your name where it says, “the world.”

You are so valuable. Ask God to help you understand your value. Thank him for loving you so much. If you do not feel how much God values you, remember, God’s truths trump our feelings. Ask God to help you believe his truths even when you do not feel them.

Keep Reading

Read Romans 8:31–39. Look at verse 32 a little closer. Who did God give up so that we could be with him? How does this demonstrate how valuable we are to him? Read verses 35, 37–39 again. No one can separate us from God! How does this truth show our value to him?

**Remember:
you are known, you are loved,
and you are never alone.**



As a teen girl, everyone wants to tell you who you are—or at least, who you are supposed to be. You are supposed to be a star student, the fastest athlete, a best friend, and much more.

But who does God say you are?

Through six weeks of daily Bible readings, prayer, and reflective questions, Hannah R. Conway helps you navigate all of the expectations. *In Case You Forget* reminds you that the only person you are *supposed* to be is a child of God.



HANNAH R. CONWAY is a wife, mom, women's ministry director, author, and podcast host in Clarksville, TN. She adores coffee and teaching the Bible to women and middle schoolers. Hannah believes that storytelling is one of the best ways to teach, inspire, and help women and girls fall in love with God's Word.

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