

# IDENTITY IN CHRIST

*Before I formed you in the womb I  
knew you, before you were born  
I dedicated you.  
Jeremiah 1:5*



Olive Blossom

# WEEK TWO

## IDENTITY IN CHRIST

### *Opening Prayer*

Lord Jesus,

You formed me in love and called me by name.

Help me see myself through Your eyes —

not through fear or comparison,

but with the peace of one who is known and loved.

Amen.

*Before I formed you in the womb I knew  
you, before you were born  
I dedicated you.  
Jeremiah 1:5*



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*Song for Reflection:  
Air on the G String - Bach*



ST. CLARE OF ASSISI  
MIRROR OF CHRIST



*"We become what we love and who we  
love shapes what we become."*

*- St. Clare of Assisi*

- ✦ **Early Life:** Born in Italy in the late 12th century to a wealthy family, the oldest of three daughters. Though her parents wanted her to marry young, she asked to wait until she was 18.
- ✦ **A New Way:** She heard St. Francis of Assisi preaching and became inspired to live life differently. A few months before turning 18, with the bishop's permission, she left her father's house to seek out Francis.
- ✦ **The Cutting of Her Hair:** Upon finding him, her hair was cut and she exchanged her elaborate dress for a simple robe. At that time, cutting one's hair signified she was no longer under the authority of man or society — she followed only the will of God.
- ✦ **The Poor Ladies:** About two weeks later, one of Clare's sisters joined her. They stayed with an order of Benedictine nuns until a separate dwelling was completed. Other women joined them, and they became known as "the Poor Ladies of San Damiano" — living lives of simplicity, poverty, and seclusion. After Clare's death, the order became the "Order of Saint Clare" or the "Poor Clares."
- ✦ **Her Teaching:** Clare wrote using two primary metaphors: the bride of Christ, drawing from the Song of Songs, and the mirror — in which we strive to reflect the image of Christ to ourselves and to others.
- ✦ **Her Legacy:** St. Clare understood that our identity is not something we build but something we behold. Her gaze was fixed on Christ, and in that gaze she discovered who she truly was: beloved, chosen, and transformed.

# WHO ARE YOU?

## Core Truth

- Who we are can only be found in Him—our Creator, our Source
- Our identity is not defined by what we do, but by Whose we are
- God has already answered the question "Who am I?" by claiming us as His own

## Key Identity Truths

- I am His
- I am beloved
- I am chosen
- I am called
- I am "fearfully and wonderfully made"
- I belong to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords

## The Temptation We Face

- Trying to earn God's love through works, achievements, proving our worthiness
- Defining ourselves by vocations, jobs, successes, and failures
- Seeking identity in "types," "systems," and boxes rather than in our Source

## The Freedom We Find

- Our mistakes and sins don't define us—they CAN'T define us—because God has already done that
- We are worthy precisely and ONLY because He says we are
- Nothing we have done or could ever do earns this —God has simply declared it so

# FINDING OURSELVES IN HIM

## **The Search for Self**

- The universal question: "Who am I?"
- Where we've looked: personality tests, typing systems, categories, boxes
- The result: frustration — nothing ever quite fits
- The reason: we've been looking in the wrong place

## **Returning to the Source**

- The answer isn't found in any system — it's received
- When we return to God, we receive the answer that was always there
- The foundational truth: I am His
- Before any title, role, achievement, or failure — we are His

## **What It Means to Be Called**

- Trying to earn God's love through works, achievements, proving our worthiness
- Defining ourselves by vocations, jobs, successes, and failures
- Seeking identity in "types," "systems," and boxes rather than in our Source

## **The Temptation to Earn**

- We try to earn God's love through effort, achievement, good behavior
- We think if we just do enough, we'll finally deserve His love
- The liberating truth: on our own, we are not worthy
- There is nothing we could do to prove we deserve His love
- This isn't meant to crush us — it's meant to free us

## **The Freedom of Receiving**

- We are worthy precisely and ONLY because He says we are
- It is nothing we have done or could ever do
- Love offers Himself freely — our response is simply to receive
- His only ask: receive His gift, then return it in love

## **Living the Truth**

- The crux: Will we believe it even when we don't feel it?
- We are mothers, daughters, sisters, workers — all the things
- But none of these compare to the foundational truth
- We find ourselves in Christ because He created us in Himself and for Himself

## NAME TAG FROM HEAVEN

*Take a quiet moment to breathe and invite Jesus into this space.*

*Pray:*

*"Jesus, what do You call me?"*

*Listen for the word or phrase He places on your heart — Beloved, Daughter, Brave, Light-Bearer..*

*Write it on your name tag as a reminder of how Heaven sees you.*



*Turn the card over.*

*Write one lie you've believed about yourself.*

*Then, beneath it, write the truth that replaces it.*

*Read the truth slowly.*

*Let it rest within you:*

*You are seen. You are known. You are loved.*

## WEEKLY CHALLENGE

*Pray your identity out loud daily:*

*"In Christ, I am [your word]. I am beloved, chosen, and held."*

*Bonus: Set your phone lock screen with tonight's verse or your "heaven name tag" or put a sticky note with your "heaven name tag" in a place you will see it every day.*

### *Closing Prayer*

Loving Father,

You are the artist of my soul. Thank You for knowing me fully and loving me completely. Let Your image shine within me and through me this week.

Amen.



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## LIVING IT OUT

*Take a few quiet moments to write what God is revealing to you this week.*

*When I ask, "Who am I?" what answers come first—roles, feelings, productivity—or "I am His"?*

*Where do I most feel pressure to earn worth? What would it look like to receive it instead?*

*Which sentence of truth do I need taped to my mirror this week?*



*"I have called you by name"  
Isaiah 43:4*

