

Have you ever wondered who you really are? Who or what defines you? When I was much younger, it was important to me that my hair was cut and fixed just right because my appearance was important to me. After getting married and having children, I still wanted to look nice, but my appearance wasn't quite as important as my identity of being known as a wife and mother.

Many struggles and responsibilities of marriage and parenthood soon brought me to my knees before Jesus. He opened my eyes to the danger of defining my own identity. This type of selfish thinking had to be put aside and many times, instead of demanding control, I chose a path of humility and let Jesus take the throne in my life. When I did, His definitions of me were so much more than anything I could have imagined. To have the honor of being called a child of God brought so much joy along with the realization that no human definition of me could prove greater than that.

To know Jesus compels us to make Him known to others. When the shepherds saw the baby Jesus in the manger, "they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child." (Luke 2:17). When Andrew discovered Christ, he "first found his own brother Simon" and told him about the Savior and "brought him to Jesus" (John 1:41-42)

When the risen Christ appeared to the women at the gravesite, "they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy and ran to bring His disciples word" (Matthew 28:8). When the disciples were forbidden from preaching Christ in Jerusalem, they said, "We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20).

So, who are we? What defines us? Do we want to live a life where we are in total control? Or do we invite Jesus into our lives and in humility, let Him give us the honor of being known as a Child of God? As we get to know our Lord better, we want the whole world to know Him more. What can we do to make Him known?

It always begins with who we are. Jesus said, "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16)

"Heavenly Father, help us to realize how important we are in Your eyes. Let us reach out to others so they realize they need to invite you into their lives also. Help us to reach out and share Your message of love to everyone we meet - today and every day of our lives. Amen."

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