

# IDENTITY


*“from confusion to confidence”*

*part I*


***THE STRUGGLE IS REAL...***



# **SOME OF THE HUMAN STRUGGLE...**

- 1. We struggle with body image.**
  - 2. We have unsettled feelings of not belonging.**
  - 3. We are constantly comparing ourselves to others.**
  - 4. Our negative thoughts outnumber our positive ones.**
  - 5. Increased general confusion around gender and sexuality.**
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# SOME OF THE BELIEVER'S STRUGGLE...

1. We doubt whether we can be truly forgiven.
  2. We are uncertain how honest we can be with God.
  3. We feel unworthy to pray for others.
  4. We don't walk in the authority we have over the 'enemy'.
  5. We are influenced by fear of man rather than love of God.
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*“The good news is that through Christ we can move from confusion to confidence in our core identity.”*



# SOME KEY QUOTES

**Leanne Payne**

*“We try hard to fit in, to be the kind of person that will cause others to like us. Craving and needing very much the affirmation of others, we compromise, put on any face, or many faces; we do even those things we do not like to do in order to fit in. We are bent toward the creature, attempting to find our identity in him.”*

***“When one lives in the midst of a lie long enough, it becomes a part of you whether you want to rationally accept it or not.”***

If broken lives and souls are to be healed, it must begin with teaching the practice of the presence... To abide in the presence of the Lord is to begin to hear Him. To follow through on that hearing is to find healing, self-acceptance, and growth into psychological and spiritual balance and maturity.


Leanne Payne



# BRENNAN MANNING

*“In my experience, self-hatred is the dominant malaise crippling Christians and stifling their growth in the Holy Spirit. ... Negative voices from our family of origin, “You will never amount to anything,” moralizing from the church, and pressure to be successful transform expectant pilgrims en route to the heavenly Jerusalem into a dispirited traveling troupe.”*

***“Living in awareness of our ‘belovedness’, is the axis around which the Christian life revolves. Being the beloved is our identity, the core of our existence. It is not merely a lofty thought, an inspiring idea, or one name among many. It is the name by which God knows us, and the way He relates to us.”***



# SOME KEY PASSAGES...

**Genesis 1:27, 31**

*So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them... Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!*

# EXODUS 3

**God:** "I am sending you as a deliverer for my people."

**Moses:** "I'm not sure about this, who am I?"

**God:** "I will be with you, now go!"

# **JOSHUA 1:6-9, 18**

**“Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go....**

**We will obey you just as we obeyed Moses. And may the Lord your God be with you as he was with Moses. So be strong and courageous!”**

# HELPFUL CONFESSIONS

1. I am the beloved of God.
2. I am forgiven through Jesus Christ.
3. I am loved and liked by God the Father.
4. I am indwelt by the Holy Spirit, a powerful creative person.
5. I can do difficult and challenging things because God is with me.
6. I am chosen by God to be an instrument of help and healing.
7. I have authority over the lies and works of the enemy.
8. I am most healthy when I am living in community with others.
9. I daily need the grace of God and therefore extend grace to others.
10. I take time daily to renew my mind with these important truths.

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