

SPIRITUAL IDENTITY THEFT

God wants us to be aware of our benefits and He wants us to be able to access them by faith.

The enemy tries to rob us of our faith and therefore our benefits.

God also wants us to be aware of our identity, to understand who we are in Him and who He has created us to be.

The Insurance Information Institute reported that nearly 13.1 million Americans had their identities financially compromised in 2015 resulting in the loss of approximately \$15 billion.

Identity theft is a major problem in the United States, but it's not something that is just financial, it's something that happens to us spiritually as well.

The enemy of your soul wants to steal your identity.

He does not want us to understand that our identity is defined by our relationship with Christ.

Satan tries to tempt us to find our identity in other things, like our work, our relationships or our interests.

Our identity, who we are, what God has called us to do, is hidden in Christ.

We need to seek it out, but we are able to find it because God wants us to find it out.

It is hidden for us, not from us.

It's like a game of hide and seek.

Who you are in Christ is awesome!

We are to set our hearts, or in other words set our desires on things above.

Things above like knowing the Lord, God's word, prayer, worship, thanksgiving, or winning the lost.

1. We are to set our minds on things above, not on earthly things.
2. We need to get rid of the stuff in our heads that crowd out the knowledge of who Christ is and who we are in Him.
3. We must share Christ out of our identity in him.

We set our hearts by first setting our minds on things above.

If you want to direct your desires you have to begin to direct your thoughts.

We must take captive every thought.

Thoughts eventually cultivate a desire.

Our minds can be full of earthly things.

Don't be so earthly minded that you're no heavenly good.

There is a TV show called Tiny Houses where people move into tiny homes 150-300 square feet.

There is only room for essentials.

They have to decide what they get to keep and it's not much.

They have to get rid of most of their stuff.

What thoughts are taking up too much space in our minds?

Don't let the wrong thoughts crowd out the right thoughts.

The enemy will fight tooth and nail to steal your identity from you!

Not everyone is a child of God, only those who receive Christ are children of God.

There are people all over our community right now, that if they were to die right now, would go to hell because they don't know Christ.

God wants to empower us to do something about that, that's who we are, and that's what will last forever.

Yet our identity does not come from our ministries.

Our ministries here on earth will someday come to an end, but we will always be a child of God.

A child of God is who we are.

It does not take a long time for someone to share Christ after they are saved.

The Apostle Paul began sharing Christ just a few days after he believed.

If we don't share Christ, we lose our identity.

Sharing Christ can be very simple.

Who do you know who needs you to share Christ with them?

SCRIPTURE LIST

Colossians 3:1-3 (not 1:1-3)

John 1:12

John 3:18

Ephesians 1:13-14

Acts 9:1-22

Acts 9:31