



Spiritual identity theft is on the rise, and usually we don't even know when it's happening. Most of us live in a constant state of spiritual identity crisis. One moment we feel close to God and the next moment we turn our backs on Him. We have times of incredible spiritual victories followed by periods of intense defeat. We're like yo-yo's - up when we perform well and down when we don't. It doesn't have to be this way any longer. Join us for this series from the book of Ephesians and learn to stop identity theft and find your true identity in Jesus!

1. Our society pictures marriage in various ways, what are some of these?
2. Read Ephesians 5:21-33. In this passage the Apostle Paul, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, paints God's picture of marriage: One man and one woman choosing to mutually submit to each other to display the mystery of Christ and his bride, the church, to the watching world. How does God's view of marriage differ from our culture?
3. In vv.31-33 Paul describes God's vision for marriage – that husbands and wives relate to each other in such a way that they reveal the mystery of Jesus Christ and his bride, the church (Eph. 1:9-10 & Eph. 3:3-6). Regardless of your marital status, what is your vision of marriage? How does God's vision for marriage compare to your vision?
4. In order to live out God's vision for marriage, husbands and wives are to relate to each other patterned after Christ and, his bride, the church. Looking at vv. 25-31 what is the husband's role in marriage? According to vv. 22-24 what is the wife's role in marriage? If you are married, in order to display the beauty of the relationship between Christ and his bride, husbands will you sacrificially love your wife and wives will you respectfully submit to your husband?
5. Just as the relationship between Christ and his bride the church is supernatural, likewise husbands sacrificially loving their wives like Christ loved the church, and wives respectfully submitting to their husbands as the church submits to Christ is also supernatural. That's why v.21 says that this mutual submission expressed in different ways is only possible as we revere Jesus Christ. And this is only possible as we continue to be filled with the Holy Spirit (v.18). So, in order to continue to be filled with the Holy Spirit, confess and repent of all sins and revere Jesus Christ today.