

My Notes:

# Following Jesus: "On the road learning to WAJW"

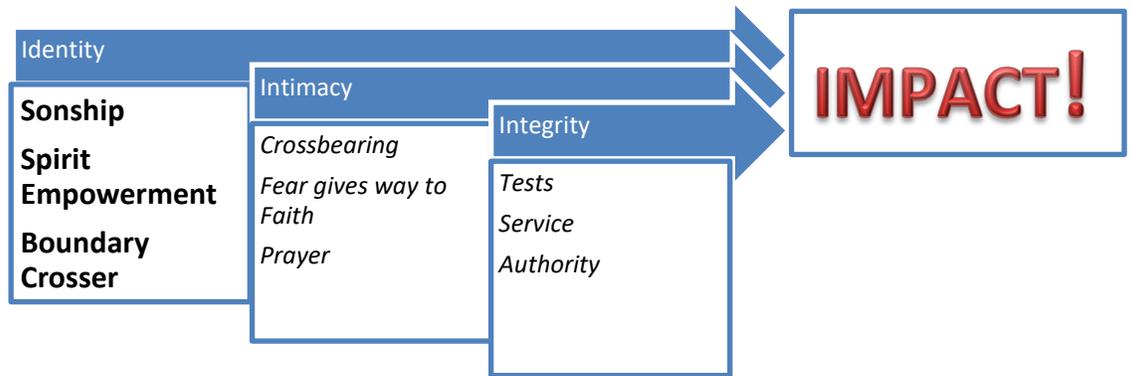
## 3<sup>rd</sup> Conversation: Identity

**Review:** Let's Just Be Sure...

The focus of Jesus' ministry was to bring release or freedom to those who were formerly on the outside of the blessing:

1. **Release:** Forgiveness of sin. **Salvation:** Status of a child of the King
2. **Release:** From the binding power of Satan. **Healing:** freedom from diabolical and social restrictions
3. **Release:** To the time of God's gracious visitation. **Jubilee:** restoration of God's original purpose for you!

What now? I am free, but how do I move forward? Who am I now that I am free? The four I's of the Christian walk: Identity, Intimacy, Integrity and Impact!



### Identity

**Sonship:** The Gospels record three occasions where we hear the Father make declarations about Jesus, his Son: Luke 3:22; Luke 9:35 and John 12:28. These statements seem to parallel Isaiah 42:1. These statements from the Old and New Testaments are compared in the following chart.

**“This is my son/my daughter” A declaration of Father God.**

**Isaiah 42:1**

**Gospels**

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“Whom I uphold”	<b>(Confirming God’s plan)</b>	“Glorify your name”	John 12:28
“Chosen One”	<b>(Family member)</b>	“Chosen”	Luke 9:35
“In whom I delight”	<b>(God’s acceptance)</b>	“Well pleased”	Luke 3:22

“Delight” means: favor, good will of God, acceptance.

**Romans 8:14-17**

<sup>14</sup> For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the **children of God**. <sup>15</sup> The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your **adoption to sonship**. And by him we cry, **“Abba, Father.”** <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are **God’s children**. <sup>17</sup> Now if we are **children**, then we are **heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ**, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

**Spirit Empowerment:** Sonship is lived out by the empowerment of the Spirit of God.

**In Isaiah 42:1**, it was prophesied of Jesus: “I will put my Spirit on him.”

Over and over again in the gospels we see how the Holy Spirit filled, led and empowered Jesus:

“And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove.” (Luke 3:21-22) “Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.” (Luke 4:1-2) “Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.” (Luke 4:14) “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me...” (Luke 4:18)

**Read Romans 8:5-13. Underline the characteristics of a life empowered by the Holy Spirit:**

<sup>5</sup> Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. <sup>6</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because

of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. <sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

**Boundary Crosser:** The children of God are called to be boundary crossers just as Christ was! Isaiah 42:1 said that Jesus would “bring justice to the **nations**.” Jesus also commissioned us, his disciples, to be boundary crossers: Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Do you see yourself as a son or daughter of Father God? Why or why not?
2. In what real ways do you experience God’s delight in you? (Deut. 30:9; Psalm 149:4; Is. 65:19)
3. Does this impact your everyday life? In what ways?
4. How would you describe your experience of being Spirit-filled?
5. What boundaries has God asked you to cross most recently?