

Mining for the Real You

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“Most of us live our entire lives as strangers to ourselves. We know more about others than we know about ourselves. Our true identities get buried beneath the mistakes we’ve made, the insecurities we’ve acquired, and the lies we’ve believed. We’re held captive by others’ expectations. We’re uncomfortable in our own skin. And we spend far too much emotional, relational, and spiritual energy trying to be who we’re not. Why? Because it’s easier. And we think it’s safer. But trying to be who we’re not amounts to forfeiting our spiritual birthrights. It’s not just that we’re lying to ourselves. Somewhere along the way, we lose ourselves.”

~ Mark Batterson, *Soul Print*

- As long as there is breath in you, it’s not too late to discover the person God intended for you to be.
- Be aware of the masks you wear as well as the masks of others.

Why *are* we here and *who* are we?

- *You were created to be like God, and so you must please him and be truly holy.* [Ephesians 4:24 ~ CEV]
- ²²*You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.* [Ephesians 4:22-24 ~ NIV]

- We are not pretending to be like God; we are being changed into the person God intended us to be.
- We decide to change our attitude toward God and He begins to recreate us into the “us” He originally intended.

➤ God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them”

[Genesis 1:27 ~ KJV]

- God is completely unique; Since we are created in the image of God – we are also completely unique !
- We discover our unique self in the moments of life.
- As caretakers of our memories and formative moments, we subconsciously file and frame them.
- What if we *consciously* try to manage our memories? Even better, what if we sincerely seek *God’s* guidance in the process. What if we allow God to reveal how He redeems our past experiences?

➤ Psalm 139:13-14,16

The Question of the Hour:

How will I become and *be* the unique individual that God intends for me to be, glorifying God with my very life?