Seeing Yourself Through

GOD’S EYES

June Hunt
When both a husband and wife live their lives reflecting their true identity in Christ, there is no more beautiful example of unity...no more inspiring display of God’s design for marriage. Such is the case with

**Beth and Bob Stapleton**

What a joy to know a couple who long ago surrendered their lives to the Lord, trusting Him with their future. As a result, they have continually been conformed to the character of Christ. Despite inevitable trials, Bob and Beth’s faith has grown stronger—and sweeter—with each passing year.

In this world, it is special to know even a handful of people whose lives so brightly radiate the love of God. But to know two, united in marriage, is a rare privilege.

I believe that here—and in heaven—there will continue to be a host of people who will say, “Beth and Bob, thank you for enriching our lives. We have consistently seen ‘Christ in you, the hope of glory’” (Colossians 1:27).
Acknowledgments

With deepest appreciation to:

Pat McKay—for your delightful creativity…from day one

Sandy Menken—for typing each word…even through the night

June Page and Keith Wall—for your wise help…at the very last minute

Jill Prohaska and Angie White—for your finishing touches…always with a smile

And to my dear friend, Dorothy Patterson—no one has encouraged me more to write…and write…and keep on writing to present God’s truth for today’s problems!

“I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power…to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ”

(Ephesians 3:16-18).
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Dear Friend,

Can you imagine what it would be like to be married...to exchange vows...to unite your hands and hearts? Now joined together as one, you and your bride drive to the airport, full of excitement about your honeymoon.

But before boarding the plane, you realize: Oh no...my wallet! Racing to return to the car, you yell, “I'll be back, honey—right back!”

She waits, and waits, and waits...until the plane leaves and your new bride is still left waiting. She's frantic now. After a thorough search of the airport and all known familiar spots, her new groom seems to have vanished!

Such is the true case of Sean McNulty, who was found three days later—wandering...disoriented...bug-bitten from head to toe. He didn’t know his beloved Amy. He didn’t know his own mother. He had amnesia—he didn’t know his identity.

Identity. What would it be like to not know your own identity—to have spiritual amnesia? If you don’t know who you are, you cannot experience deep inner peace and complete contentment—for instead, confusion reigns.

Sadly, this is how many people live today—they simply don’t know who they are. But you do not have to live this way. The key is to learn to see yourself through God’s eyes.

What if you simply don’t know how God views you? The 31 daily devotions in this book will help you see your God-given worth and will remind you that, as a believer, you are very special in the heart and
mind of the One who made you. Are you able to accept the truth that you have precious worth?

It might help to ask yourself, *How is the worth of an item established?* Let’s assume you are at an auction. Item after item is presented for sale and item after item is sold—not always to the *same* bidder, but always to the *highest* bidder. To the one willing to pay the highest price.

Consider this: Jesus paid the ultimate price for you when He came to earth as a man, willingly died on the cross, and paid the penalty for your sins. Jesus Christ as God did not have to redeem you. But He loves you so much—you are so valuable to Him—He willingly paid the highest price.

Without a doubt, you have great worth in His eyes!

By meditating daily on the scriptures you read over the next 31 days, you will see your worth. As you train your mind to focus on the truth about yourself, your emotions will “be transformed by the renewing of your mind” (Romans 12:2).

In your heart, commit to faithfully do these spiritual exercises… take time to soak up all their truths. Then these Scripture passages will begin to saturate your heart, transform your thinking, and help develop the true picture of who you are…from God’s point of view, the true point of view.

I want this to be an encouraging study for you! My prayer is that as you meet with God, you will take to heart His precious perspective of you. I pray that your emotions will be steadied and your heart will be secured because you will have begun to *see yourself through God’s eyes.*

Yours in the Lord’s hope,

June Hunt
What Is Your Identity?

Every person born into this world has had difficulty with identity at some time or another. All of us have struggled with our self-image.

Many spend a lifetime manipulating acceptance and attention from others, thinking they are building an indestructible tower of self-worth. Yet when people fail us and our logical expectations of our loved ones fall painfully short, our own self-worth can begin to crumble.

That’s exactly the problem if we let our identity be in another person—we give that person too much control of us. And more so, we miss the vision God has of us and the immense value He places on us. The steps to understanding these truths are paved throughout Scripture. To tread these steps, we need to have a full understanding of what is meant by identity.

Have you ever asked yourself, Who am I? Where am I going? Do you understand your God-given worth? How essential to have accurate answers to these questions so that you can be what God created you to be and do what God created you to do.

Your Identity Determines Your Worth

Realize your identity ultimately determines your worth and your destination. In a very practical sense, if I were to enter a bank, step up to a teller, and say, “May I have $100?” the teller would ask for my account number or my name. If I had amnesia and didn’t know who I was, I could not provide this information. And if I continued to request money, I would receive nothing but the directions to the front door.

However, knowing there are resources in my name—regardless of
who placed them there—as long as I provide the teller with my name and account number, I can quickly receive the cash requested. My identity definitely determines my worth and my ability to draw upon that reserve.

**Your Identity Determines Your Destination**

What about your destination? Where are you going?

Some time ago I planned to fly from Dallas to Atlanta to speak at a convention and arrived at the airport with time to spare. Prior to the final boarding call, I made a quick phone call, using the extra time I thought I had. When I began to board, I was told they had started assigning seats for standby passengers and I should have checked in at the main desk (mistakenly, I thought the boarding pass in my hand was sufficient…but my seat might have been given to someone else).

My heart raced as I approached the agent at the desk and handed him my ticket. Would I be allowed to leave? A silent eternity passed as he scanned a computer screen for the official flight passenger list.

He checked for my name, saw it, and said with a smile, “Yes, you are on this flight. You may board the plane.” Indeed, my identity was directly linked to the destination of that plane.

Much more critical is our identity in terms of ultimate worth and eternal destination. The Bible states there are two different “identities” or “families” for all human beings: those who are in Adam, and those who are in Christ. First Corinthians 15:21-22 says, “Since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”

The question is this: To which of these two families do you belong? Your personal identification with one of these families will determine your characteristics and your inheritance.

**Your Identity Determines Your Characteristics**

Our physical characteristics are determined by our biological families. In college, my freshman roommate was Josephine Eng from Hong Kong. She had straight black hair, dark brown eyes, a dark complexion, flattened features, and a small frame. In stark contrast, I had curly...
What Is Your Identity?

blond hair, green eyes, a fair complexion, angular features, and a large frame.

No matter how much time I spent with Josephine, I could never possess her characteristics. Simply put, I could not have Eng characteristics unless I had been born into the Eng family. Likewise, when we were born into the family of Adam, we inherited characteristics from his family line.

Since Adam made the choice in the Garden of Eden not to obey God, he and all his descendants are “identified” with sin (this is their identity). This heart of independence is the basic nature we have all inherited. Psalm 51:5 says, “Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.” Consequently, our natural inclination is to sin because we are born of Adam’s family.

Your Identity Determines Your Inheritance

However, since God made it possible for us to change families, we are able to receive a new identity—a new nature! You can be “adopted” into the family of Christ and become a child of God. Then you lose your identity in Adam and receive your identity in Christ. As a result, you receive your new characteristics. The Bible says, “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Your old natural sin nature is supernaturally changed for a new divine nature (2 Peter 1:3-4). A consequence of this new identity is a new worth based on the abundant resources placed into your personal account. A second consequence is a new destination throughout eternity, where you will forever be secure in the presence of God.

Precious one, how God desires that you will receive all that He provides! The struggle with low-self-worth can be replaced with godly self-worth when you are in Christ. But in order for you to have the characteristics of Christ, you must be in a different family.

Has that change become a reality for you? If not, on the authority of the Word of God, you can become a child of God. The Bible says, “To all who received him [Jesus], to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God” (John 1:12).
If you desire this new relationship with God through Christ, you can pray this prayer:

*God, I want a real relationship with You. I admit, many times I have chosen wrong. I know I’ve sinned, and I’m asking You to forgive me for my sins. I now want to become a child of God. Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross for my sins—for shedding Your blood on the cross to pay the price I should have paid.*

*Come into my life to be my Lord and my Savior. I yield my will to Your will. Thank You for loving me. Thank You for forgiving me. Thank You for giving me the free gift of eternal life. Lord, make me the person You created me to be. In Your holy name I pray, Amen.*

If you sincerely prayed that prayer in true humility, you can thank God for His heart’s desire to move you into a new family—*His family*. How extraordinary—every child of God genuinely has a new worth, a new destination, and a new identity! Now you can begin to see yourself through God’s eyes!
Your New Life in Christ

“For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”

(1 Corinthians 15:22).

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Discovering How God Sees You

“If you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will…find the knowledge of God”

(Proverbs 2:3-5).

You are about to unearth the most priceless of all hidden treasures. To begin this great discovery, all you need is a pen, paper, and your favorite Bible translation. As you bring to the surface the truths of each daily devotion, you will see God’s perspective of you from His Word.

Research\(^1\) has shown that it takes three weeks to form a habit; therefore, as you end this study, you should be in the precious process of seeing yourself through God’s eyes. The following six steps will be used by the Spirit of God to bring to light that which may be currently hidden from view:

1. Begin each day asking God to reveal how He sees you…simply because you are His child.
2. Concentrate on the initial statement concerning you and on the corresponding scripture.
3. Read the practical commentary and pray that the Lord’s heavenly view of you would penetrate your heart.
4. Look up the additional Scripture passages in your Bible, then personalize and paraphrase them, putting them into your own words.
5. Write a personal prayer and complete the phrase, “Father, through Your eyes I can see that I ________.”
6. Repeat to yourself the truth printed at the bottom of the
page. With a grateful heart, acknowledge that you have infinite worth in the eyes of your heavenly Father.

**AN EXAMPLE**

Day 32

I Am Given the Compassion of Christ

*Personalize these verses in your own words:*

**Isaiah 49:15**  
No matter who rejects me, the Lord will never forget me. No matter who is cold toward me, the Lord has compassion for me, even greater than a mother for her child.

**Lamentations 3:22-23**  
God not only loves me, He also has great compassion for me. I don’t need to be overcome by my trials because God will always love me and be faithful to me.

**Father, through Your eyes I can see that I...**  
I will never be without Your love and compassion. I shouldn’t base how I feel about myself on how I am being treated by others. Thank You that Your compassion will never fail me.

I am loved because...I have the unfailing compassion of Christ.
Part 1

My Position in Christ

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!”

(1 John 3:1).
Day 1

I Am Adopted by God

“He predestined us to be adopted”
(Ephesians 1:5).

Oh, to be secure! Everyone wants it; everyone longs for it. Why? Perhaps security has added significance to us because we all know the feeling of having the proverbial “rug pulled out from under us” by someone we trusted. At one time we felt at home in the relationship, but rejection sent us out the door and into the pit of abandonment.

Is there a place you can call “home” and not question its permanence? A place of emotional security—a place that will last throughout eternity? Consider what your heavenly Father has said: “I have adopted you.”

Even though God already has a Son, He chooses to adopt you. God does not have to adopt you; He wants to! You are His child; He is your loving Father.

Thomas Watson expressed it this way: “Since God has a Son of His own, and such a Son, how wonderful God’s love in adopting us! We needed a Father, but He did not need sons.”

If you have not had a meaningful relationship with your earthly father, it may be hard for you to fully comprehend a caring, loving heavenly Father. Unlike some earthly fathers, God is always available to you. He will neither leave you nor forsake you—He is with you all the time. He desires to be intimately involved in every aspect of your life. By adopting you, He has chosen you to have the full privilege of being His own.

Many similarities can be seen between God’s adoption of us and the legal adoption of a child. An adopted child is not inferior to any other child in the family. Adopted children carry the family name, and their inheritance is secure because they, too, are legal heirs.
However, there is one difference between legal adoption and God’s adoption: A legally adopted child will not receive the same nature as the newly adoptive parents, who have different biological genes and characteristics. Yet when you are adopted by God, you always receive a new nature—the nature of your heavenly Father.

History tells us that when the New Testament was written, it was understood an adoption could never be revoked. Do you realize what that means in light of your relationship with God? Once you are selected, you can never be rejected. You will never be emotionally abandoned. You will always have a home in God’s heart. Seeing yourself through God’s eyes, you are His child forever.

Personalize these verses in your own words:

Romans 8:15

Galatians 4:5-7

Father, through Your eyes I can see that I…

I am secure because…I am adopted by God.
Day 2

I Am a Child of God

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!”

(1 John 3:1).

What a tender scene...Jesus with the children! His disciples felt they were a nuisance, yet Jesus recognized their needs and was eager to place His hands on them and pray for them. “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” (Matthew 19:14).

Perhaps you experienced an unhappy childhood and grew up in a situation where you felt unloved. Such an experience can profoundly affect your life—even as an adult—and can result in a long, continuing search for love and acceptance.

Perhaps you’ve felt like a nuisance, unwanted and unwelcomed. It is no small matter that your heavenly Father calls you His child, a loving term of endearment. Dear child of God, you are loved, you are wanted, and you do belong. The very “longing to belong” is put in your heart by God Himself. He creates a desire in your heart to know Him as your loving Father.

You may have heard people say, “Everyone is a child of God.” While this sounds warm and wonderful, it is simply not true! According to John 1:12, “To all who received him [Jesus Christ], to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”

While the Bible teaches that everyone on earth is a creation of God, only those who receive Jesus as Lord and Savior become authentic children of God.

If a teenager you had never seen before strolled into your house, headed for the refrigerator, made a sandwich, and plopped down
on your sofa, what would you do? How long would you permit this intruder to continue this pretentious behavior? Not long!

Yet if your own child walked in, headed for the refrigerator, made a sandwich, and so forth, you wouldn’t think anything about it. Because the child belongs there, he has a right to the comforts of home. As a part of your family, he has family privileges.

The same is true for you as a child of God…you are part of His family. He delights in providing for your needs, and as His child, you can look to Him to meet your needs. You can come into His presence at any time. Seeing yourself through God’s eyes, you are welcomed, you are wanted.

You are “at home” in God’s family.

*Personalize these verses in your own words:*

**Romans 8:16**

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**Ephesians 2:19**

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**Father, through Your eyes I can see that I…**

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*I am secure because… I am a child of God.*