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## Critical Questions: Who Am I?

Matthew 16:13

There are questions of life that we wrestle with. If we can find real answers to those questions we can get to our purpose.

1. **Who Am I? – A question of identity.**
2. Where Did I Come From? – *A question of source.*
3. Why Am I Here? – *A question of purpose.*
4. What Can I Do? – *A question of potential.*
5. Where Am I Going? – *A question of destiny.*

In tackling the 1<sup>st</sup> question of the series, the focus will begin with the question of **identity**. We may identify ourselves by our ethnicity, race, career or political affiliation. However, our identity should be rooted in God's love for us.

### Matthew 16:13

*“Knowing who He was, was so important He asked, ‘Who do men say I am?’”* – Pastor Billy R. Johnson.

Others may wrongly identify or mislabel us. The scripture shows it was the Father who revealed to men who Jesus was.

*“Who you say Jesus is, determines your eternal destiny.”* – Pastor Billy R. Johnson.

### Luke 3:21

Observations in the scripture where a sense of identity is gained:

- The Father **acknowledges** his Son.
- The Father **authorized** the Son.
- The Father **affirmed** His Son.

*“There’s something about being acknowledged that brings value to you.”* – Pastor Billy R. Johnson.

### **Luke 4:1**

The significance of the scripture:

- The temptation of Jesus was centered around His identity.
- He was questioned about who He was.
- His answer did not rely upon his emotions/feelings but remained rooted in scripture.

The problem – *we have identified ourselves by what we do.*

*“My identity is who I am, separate and apart from what I do.”* – Pastor Billy R. Johnson.

### **John 3:16**

**What Does God/Bible Say About Who I Am?**

- I am unconditionally loved by God
- He sent His Son not to condemn us, but to save us.
- While we were yet sinners, God loved us *first*.