

## **The Divine Call of Identity**

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Matthew 16:24-25

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### **Matthew 16:24-25**

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.”

“How can you draw close to God when you are far from your own self? Grant, Lord, that I may know myself that I may know thee.”

- Augustine, *Confessions*

“Our wisdom...consists almost entirely of two parts: the knowledge of God and ourselves. But as these are connected together by many ties, it is not easy to determine which of the two precedes and gives birth to the other.”

– John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*

Identity is who you are and where you get your value.

“The social imaginary is the common understanding which makes possible common practices and a widely shared sense of legitimacy.”

- Charles Taylor, *A Secular Age*

An identity based on The Divine Call is both what you are meant to become and the great task of Christian transformation.

### **Genesis 1:26-28**

Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them...

“Unless you are esteemed by someone you esteem you will have no self-esteem.”

- Tim Keller

### **Mark 1:11**

And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

### **John 13:3-5**

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

### **John 17:20-23**

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I

in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me *and have loved them even as you have loved me.*”

“Like everything is everything  
Like all them days He prayed with me  
Like emptiness was tamed in me  
And all that was left was his love  
And all that was left was his love  
And all that was left was his love  
And all that was left was his love”

- Noname, *Drown*