

"WHO YOU SAY I AM"
 Date: October 18, 2020
 Speaker: Chris Potter

GOD IT'S ME
 a teaching series at Kessid

(Vs.) Eph 4:6 – *"There is... one God and Father of all, who is **over all** and **through all** and **in all.**"*

Just one line, but so massive!

(Vs.) Jeremiah 29:13 – *"You will **seek me and find me** when you seek me with all your heart."*

- **Our goal** – a deeper and transformational awareness of these two truths.

(Vs.) Exodus 3:1-4 (NLT) – *One day Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro,^[a] the priest of Midian. He led the flock far into the wilderness and came to Sinai, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a blazing fire from the middle of a bush. Moses stared in amazement. Though the bush was engulfed in flames, it didn't burn up. ³ "This is amazing," Moses said to himself. ⁴ When the Lord saw Moses coming to take a closer look, God called to him from the middle of the bush, "Moses! Moses!" - "Here I am!" Moses replied.*

Seeking and finding God is a joint partnership. God has a role to play and you have a role to play.

- Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. (James 4:8) There is something in the seeking and finding that God finds value in, and we should too.

(Vs.) Exodus 3:5-6 (NLT) – *⁵ "Do not come any closer," the Lord warned. **"Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground.** ⁶ I am the God of your father^[a]—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." When Moses heard this, he covered his face because he was afraid to look at God.*

- We are conditioned to view stories as if we the dialogue/events are created for the audience. But that is not the case here, we are witness to God interacting with Moses. Why does that matter? The things that God is saying are for Moses...

(Vs.) Exodus 3:11 (NLT) *¹¹ But Moses protested to God, **"Who am I** to appear before Pharaoh? **Who am I** to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?"*

- In fact, Moses protests 5 times (at one-point God says, "I made your mouth!") – Like a true parent!

*(Vs.) Exodus 3:11- (NLT) - **11** But Moses protested to God, **"Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?"***

As the audience, we know the rest of the story, and from it two truths...

- God knew who Moses was better than Moses knew himself.
- God knows you better than you know you
- Through this series, we have been teaching on the importance of intimacy with God. This is something we want to instill in our children and embody in our own lives. But moving forward, we also need to grow in our understanding of "why" this intimacy matters...
- Jesus' interactions in the New Testament – look how quickly He shifts the conversation to identity, to who we are. (Old self/New self)...

"How can you draw close to God when you are far from your own self? He prayed: 'Grant, Lord, that I may know myself that I may know thee.'" – Augustine

In 1530, John Calvin wrote, "Our wisdom... consists almost entirely of two parts: the knowledge of God and of 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."

- You have a picture of God (who He is in His character and nature)
- You have a picture of Yourself (who you are in your character and nature)

Sooner or later we must distinguish between what we are not and what we are. We must accept the fact that we are not what we would like to be. We must cast off our false, exterior self like the cheap and showy garment it is. We must find our real self, in all its elemental poverty but also in its very great and very simple dignity: created to be a child of God, and capable of loving with something of God's own sincerity and His unselfishness. – Dallas Willard

At my deepest and truest self, I am a child fully loved by a Father, and there isn't a moment or place in my life that isn't true.

*(Vs.) Eph 4:6 – "There is... one God and Father of all, who is **over all** and **through all** and **in all**."*

*(Vs.) Jeremiah 29:13 – "You will **seek me and find me** when you seek me with all your heart."*

I'll go first...

- God, it's me... Joy
 - God it's me... Sadness
 - God, it's me... Fear
 - God, it's me... _____
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- Moses took off his shoes and discovered that the ground did not suddenly become holy.
 - Moses took off his shoes and discovered that the ground had been holy the entire time. Or perhaps more accurately, Moses took off his shoes so he could feel and experience the holiness that is always with us.