

Journey Church Hawaii  
Victory Over The Darkness<sup>1</sup>: Ch 1  
“Who Are You?”  
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INTRODUCTION: Romans 8:14-17

**If the Spirit of God bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, why are we NOT sensing it?** [Ro 8:16] Unresolved conflicts in our lives relegate us to being “carnal Christians” who are not able to receive the solid food of God’s Word [1 Cor 3:2-3]. The answer is to help people resolve their personal and spiritual conflicts through genuine repentance by submitting to God and resisting the devil [Jas 4:6-7].

"I am saddened by how we have separated the ministries of discipleship and counseling in our churches. Christian discipleship too often has become an impersonal program, although good theological material is being used. Christian counseling has been intensely personal but often lacks good theology. I believe discipleship and counseling are biblically the same. If you were a good discipler you would be a good counselor and vice versa. Discipleship counseling is the process where two or more people meet together in the presence of Christ, learn how the truth of God’s Word can set them free and thus are able to conform to the image of God as they walk by faith in the power of the Holy Spirit." [N. Anderson VOD page 17]

- ✓ DSC Counseling must start where the Bible starts: we must have a true knowledge of God and know who we are as Children of God [COG]
- ✓ I believe that the greatest determinant of mental and spiritual health and spiritual freedom is a true understanding of God and right relationship with Him
- ✓ People who want to move forward in Christian maturity can certainly benefit from the counsel of others. Ultimately, however, every Christian is responsible for his/her own maturity and freedom in Christ
- ✓ Your maturity is the product of time, pressure, trials, tribulations, the knowledge of God’s Word, an understanding of who you are in Christ and the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life

This Book Focuses on the Foundational Issues of Living and Maturing **In Christ**:

- (1) Discover who you are In Christ
- (2) How to Live by Faith
- (3) Learn how to Walk in the Power of the Holy Spirit
- (4) Discover the nature of the battle for your mind
- (5) Learn why your mind must be transformed so you can live by faith and grow spiritually
- (6) Gain insight into how to manage your emotions and be set free from the emotional traumas of your past through faith and forgiveness

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<sup>1</sup> Anderson, Neil T Victory Over The Darkness [Minneapolis, Bethany House] 2000, 2013

- I. "Is who you are determined by what you do, or is what you do determined by who you are?" [2 Cor 5:17]
  - A. "False Equations in the Search for Identity"
  - B. The book of Ecclesiastes describes the futility of humankind pursuing a meaningful life in a fallen world without God
  - C. You are already a whole person and possess a life of intimate meaning and purpose because of who you are – a child of God. The only identity equation that works in God's Kingdom is: You + Christ = wholeness and meaning
  - D. Sadly, we have been deceived into believing that what we do determines who we are. We fail [sin], so we see ourselves as failures, which only leads to more failure
- II. The Original Creation [Genesis 1-2]
  - A. Physically Alive: the soul or soul/spirit is in union with your body
  - B. Spiritually Alive: soul/spirit is in union with God
  - C. Significance: Man has a Divine Purpose [Gen 1:28]
  - D. Safety and Security: all of man's needs were provided for [Gen 1:29]
  - E. Belonging: Man had a sense of belonging [Gen 2:18]
- III. The Effects of the Fall [Genesis 3:8-4:9]
  - A. Spiritual Death: separated from God's Presence
  - B. Lost Knowledge of God: Lost true perception of reality and the idea of knowing was no longer relational
  - C. Dominant Negative Emotions: fearful, anxious, ashamed, guilty, depressed, angry
  - D. Too Many Choices: in the Garden, there was only ONE wrong choice; now, too many!
  - E. Attributes Become Needs
    - 1. Acceptance was replaced by rejection; therefore we have a need to belong
    - 2. Innocence was replaced by guilt and shame; therefore the need for a legitimate sense of worth has to be restored
    - 3. Dominion was replaced by weakness and helplessness; therefore we have a need for strength and self-control
- IV. Who I am [pages 38-39]
  - A. I am Accepted [John 1:12; 15:15; Ro 5:1; 1 Cor 6:17; 6:20; 12:27]
  - B. I am Secure [Ro 8:1-2; 8:28; 8:31-34; 35-39]
  - C. I am Significant [Matt 5:13-16; John 15:1,5; 15:16; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor 3:16; 2 Cor 5:17-21]
- V. How do I Become IN CHRIST?
  - A. Receive and Believe in Jesus Christ [John 1:12-13]
  - B. Invite Him into your Heart [Revelation 3:20]
    - 1. God Loves Me [John 3:16]
    - 2. All Have sinned, including me; no one is perfect but God [Romans 3:23-24]
    - 3. The consequences of sin is spiritual death; but the gift of God is spiritual and eternal life! [Romans 6:23]
    - 4. Jesus paid the price for my sins [Romans 5:8]. He became sin for me [2 Cor 5:21]
    - 5. Confess and Believe and I am SAVED, IN CHRIST! [Ro 10:8-13]