

**“Who Am I?”**  
**Philippians 1:1-2**  
**Sermon Series: “Joy Invincible”**

**Introduction:**

**How are we defined and who gets to do it? Who am I? What is my identity?**

**A Christian worldview says that we are:**

- Image-bearers of God**
- Fallen and depraved**
- Made new through the redemption of Jesus**

**A secular worldview says we are:**

- Cosmic accidents**
- Naturally good but corrupted by society**
- Improve our self-esteem and transform society**

**1. My identity is defined by my relationship with Jesus (v.1- Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:)**

**A. I am a bondservant of Jesus (v.1a)**

Wuest: “Paul calls Timothy and himself servants of Jesus Christ. There is no definite article in the Greek. They were servants by nature. The word is *doulos*, and refers to one bound to another. Paul was bound to Jesus Christ by the bands of a constraining love. It refers to one born into slavery. Paul was born into slavery to sin by his first birth, and into the position of a loving bondservant of the Lord Jesus by his new birth. It refers to one who is in a relation to another which only death can break. Paul’s relation to Satan was broken by his identification with Christ in His death. He now is in a relation to Jesus Christ which will last forever, since Christ can never die again, and Paul’s life is Christ. It refers to one whose will is swallowed up in the will of another. Paul’s will was at one time swallowed up in the will of Satan. Now his will is swallowed up in the sweet will of God. It refers to one who serves another even to the disregard of his own interests. Paul served Satan to the detriment of his own interests. Now he serves the Lord Jesus with a reckless abandon, not regarding his own interests.”

**-Implications:**

- I belong to Jesus so my life is His-not mine.**
- He is my Lord so I am under His authority and responsible to serve and obey Him.**

-He knows what is best for me and is responsible to take care of me.

**Why should I surrender my life to Jesus?**

**1. Because He is the Lord God Almighty and our surrender is not a question of it but when.**

**2. Because He humbled Himself to become a bondservant and then died on the cross for us.**

**3. Because we will be a slave to something.**

**4. Because the fruit of our lives is determined by who or what we are surrendered to (Romans 6:17-23).**

**B. I am a saint in union with Jesus (v.1-“to all the saints *in Christ Jesus*”)**

-Saint (RCBD): “A person set apart to God by virtue of a personal relationship with him.”

**-Colossians 1:21-22**

**Talk about the meaning and importance of being in union with Jesus**

**-Galatians 2:20; Colossians 1:27-28, 2:6, 2:9-10, Ephesians 1:3-11**

**C. I am a member of the Body of Christ in community with the other saints (v.1-v.1- Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons.”)**

-Paul talking about people ministering to him and how people in the church have ministered to us

-Eugene Peterson: ”There can be no maturity in the spiritual life, no obedience in following Jesus, no wholeness in the Christian life, apart from an immersion in, and embrace of, community. **I am not myself by myself.**”

**2. My identity is received-not achieved. (verse 2- Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ., Ephesians 2:8-9, 1 Corinthians 15:10, Romans 5:1-2)**

**Conclusion:**

**What do I want you to know? In Christ, this is who you are, by grace (Review). Or it is who you can be if you are not in Christ.**

**What do I want you to do?**

Christian: Hebrews 12:1-2

John 15:5

Live in community

Non-Christian: Ephesians 2:8-9