Careline *newsletter*

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IDENTITY CRISES AND PRIDE

Our society seems more uncertain and confused than ever. A crisis of identity is occurring in churched and unchurched alike. Pastor explains a root cause of this epidemic.

Many people within our culture, including the Church seem to be struggling with an identity crisis. When one takes a glance around, it is easy to see a significant number of people cross-generationally who are uncertain, confused, or insecure in their own identity. When we boil it all down, the root cause is pride. Pride keeps us from being satisfied with our lives. Pride distorts our view of who we are and to Whom we belong. It also distorts our view of others and how we think about them. This problem used to be described as, "Keeping up with the Jones'." Today, it looks more like, "Keeping up with my friends on social media." However you want to describe the identity crises we see all around us, it all comes down to pride.

One look on social media and anyone can see there is a tendency to always put the best foot forward. "My life is perfectly put together from my physical appearance to my family. Nothing wrong here!" our social media pages declare, when in all actuality, life is a mess. I know this because life is messy for everyone. We don't live in a perfect world and need not act like our lives are something that they are not. As Christians, when we pretend like everything is great all the time, (I have a perfect mate, perfect children, perfect cat and dog, nothing ever goes wrong in my life, etc.) we live with a plastic mask that will eventually crack. We hide our real selves, our real life because we feel like we are in competition with others. It goes back to "keeping up with the Jones'" and comparison. We spend more, primp more, inflate more, and brag more for a few self-satisfied moments impressing someone else. When we pretend we are not broken people living in a broken world, we leave no room for

Church Events

7.1 Bridal Shower for Hannah Heiser; No PM Services

7.4 Independence Day; CBC Office Closed

7.8 No PM Services

7.9 BBA

7.11 Pre-Teen Camp @ Lake Lavon

7.15 Fellowship Honoring the McDaris Family

7.17 BIG TUESDAY

7.20 Preschool J.A.M.

7.22 CBC Summer Nights

7.24 Laced-Up Soccer Camp

7.27 Senior Adult Luncheon

7.29 No Children's Church; CBC Summer Nights

Christ to be glorified. In Mark 2:17, Jesus said, "It is not those who are well who need a doctor, but those who are sick. I didn't come to call the righteous but the sinners." Pride and comparison will always lead to dissatisfaction with the life God has given us and the individual self he has created in us.

Pride also distorts our view of others. Pride can give us an attitude of superiority when in reality; we are all sinners in need of a Savior. We operate in this identity crisis because we think we are better in comparison to others' intellect, skin color, social status, job title, or what school they did or didn't attend. This is an easy comparison trap to fall into; however Paul teaches in Romans that we are "not to think of [ourselves] more highly than [we] should think." In Colossians 3:12, Paul again highlights the importance of humility by saying, "clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, *humility,* gentleness, and patience." (Emphasis mine) Christ came in humility and lowliness, not arrogance and pride. If we are to have the same like-mindedness with Jesus, we must realize that he alone is worthy of honor and superiority. The feeling of superiority will also lead us to dismiss people who could be very dear to us in the long run, which in turn makes for a very lonely and solitary existence.

Some have seemingly lost their identity in Christ through pride and comparison to others. When we constantly compare ourselves against one another, we lose sight of to Whom we belong.

In losing sight of our identity in Christ, we lose sight of the family that we belong to also. The Church is to be a family on mission, but if we don't watch it, our individual agendas begin to take over and what Christ desires to accomplish takes a backseat. We begin to feel slighted, are hurt by others easily, and if we aren't paying attention, the evil one will lead us into the trap of bitterness. We then become just like the world by holding others to a standard of "tolerance," yet refusing to give the grace and mercy we desperately need ourselves. We operate and order our lives in selfishness and legalism, just like the Pharisees. When we know that we belong to Christ and have the proper perspective on our lives, we can then be grateful and thankful for the life God has given us and the person he has created us to be. Without Christ, we have no hope at all.

This summer, we are going through a series called, "Identity Crisis." This series is meant to address the societal and cultural identity crisis at large and to guide us through how we are to live intentional, profitable, Christ-filled lives in the midst of cultural chaos. Beginning July 29, we will host a special guest who will give us insight on some of the crises that we face so mark your calendar! This series is especially important for teenagers, parents, grandparents, college students, and singles. That covers just about everybody. See you all there!

Blessings,

BRO D.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, 7/21
@ 7:30 AM

FAITH, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP
@ Lorenzo's

FREEDOM FROM HURTS, HABITS AND HANG-UPS

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

IT'S A NEW DAY

A Christ-centered recovery program for anyone dealing with Hurts, Habits, or Hang-Ups
Meeting Tuesdays @6:30 PM
(6:00 for Dinner)
All Group Discussion are Confidential
"Celebration Place" is an ongoing program for kids
"The Landing" is an ongoing program for teens.
Visit celebraterecovery@calvarysanmarcos.com or contact Bob Moe @ 512-557-4155

BIG TUESDAY

7.17, 8 am to 6 pm
1st thru 5th grade

Preschool J.A.M.

July 20
9:00 to 2:00
See Miranda for details and registration

Join us for a

Stock the Pantry Shower

Honoring

Hannah Heiser

On Sunday, July 1st
@ 4:00 pm
In the fellowship hall

Please bring any dry goods needed to make your favorite recipe, or the kitchen items needed to make it! Hannah & Eddie are registered at Target & Amazon.com

LACED-UP SOCCER CAMP

JULY 24-27
PRE-K & KINDER, 9AM TO 2PM
1ST THRU 5TH GRADE, 9AM TO 4PM

A CURRENT MEDICAL RELEASE FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION. SEE MIRANDA FOR MORE INFO.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

- THERE WILL BE A KID'S MUSIC CAMP AUGUST 8-10 FOR PRESCHOOLERS THROUGH 5TH GRADE. PLEASE SEE ROSANNA FOR DETAILS.
- THE FINAL BIG TUESDAY AND PRESCHOOL J.A.M. OF THE SUMMER WILL BE AUGUST 14 AND 17 RESPECTIVELY. SEE MIRANDA FOR SIGN UP.
- THE CBC MEN'S CONFERENCE IS COMING ON AUGUST 24 AND 25. THIS IS ALWAYS AN EXCELLENT WEEKEND FOR MEN TO COME TOGETHER TO BE CHALLENGED AND INSPIRED BY OTHER GODLY MEN. REGISTRATION WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE CBC WEBSITE. COST IS $30. BRING A COWORKER, NEIGHBOR, FRIEND, OR FAMILY MEMBER!

Calvary Events Calendar

July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Aaron Villarreal Bridal Shower for Hannah Heiser No PM Services	2 7:00pm Outreach/ Visitation	3	4 	5 Roger Meier	6	7 Asher Leos
8 No PM Services	9 BBA 7:00pm Outreach/ Visitation	10 Mae Spire	11 Bobby Kinser Mary Spurlock PRE-TEEN CAMP @ LAKE LAVON	12 Pat Carr Claire Harris	13	14
15 Gary Allen Dick Critz Fellowship Honoring the McDaris Family	16 7:00pm Outreach/ Visitation	17 BIG TUESDAY	18	19	20 Joan Kelly Arie Taylor-Flint Preschool J.A.M.	21 Men's Breakfast
22 Wilma Cortez CBC Summer Nights	23 7:00pm Outreach/ Visitation	24	25 Laced-Up Soccer Camp	26 Mike Brewington	27 Emma Cortez Donna Dees Mason Groves Andy Isaacks Jean Landrey Rebecca Montemayor Senior Adult Luncheon	28
29 No Children's Church CBC Summer Nights	30 Chris Boeker Diane Groves 7:00pm Outreach/ Visitation	31 Lance Whitehouse				