

Speaker 1 ([00:17](#)):

Hello, welcome to Deaf women's conference. I'm so excited. You're here. My name is Tanya Polstra. I've typed up some notes for you so you can follow along. And if you left your Bible in the other room, do not worry together. We're going to be watching the Deaf Missions, ASLV translation. I'm a big believer in using your heart language, but whatever you communicate with, if you communicate in ASL, you should, watch and read the Bible in ASL as well. So that's what we're going to do today. Got my Bible here, opened up to Ephesians.

Speaker 1 ([00:58](#)):

The Bible is a love letter. I'm wondering if any of you enjoy getting love letters, maybe you're imagining romance and love letters to someone like that, but you can also love your sister. Someone who's really special or important to you. You can share with them how you feel about them. Remember, growing up, I had a really close friend who would travel often in the summers and she knew that I loved getting postcards. So every time when she would visit a different city, a different state, she would send me a postcard. And it meant so much to me because of her friendship, because she was thinking of me. She wanted to encourage me. It meant so much to me that I have still saved these postcards in a box in my basement. And that's what Paul did to the Christians and Ephesians. And they must have really been inspired by these letters that Paul sent to them because they've saved them. And we still have them in the Bible. If they didn't, I don't think they would have been preserved all these years. The Bible is God's love letter to you throughout this conference. I pray that you'll be watching. You'll be inspired. You'll know that you are loved and you'll know who you are in God's eyes and how poor me you are.

Speaker 1 ([02:21](#)):

So today we're going to be studying Ephesians chapter one verses one through 14. Christ is our redemption. And we're going to be talking about our identity in Christ. One thing that Paul spoke so much about was the rich blessings that we have in Christ. And I'm going to be sharing about that. I want you to know this is not going to be a really in depth study or I'm talking so much. It's just going to be a short and sweet message to remind us of our identity. You know, today we have an identity crisis going on. There's so much happening politics, so much debate. We it's normal for us to wonder, who are we? Why are we here? It's also normal for us to go through different stages of life. When we're learning about ourselves, figuring out ourselves and figuring out our identity, that's very normal. But my concern is that we're so easily swayed by what people are, what people's opinions are about politics, and what's going on. When we need to ask God, what does he think about me? Who am I in his eyes? And that's what Paul wrote about.

Speaker 1 ([03:40](#)):

And there are three ways. We find out who we are in Christ by learning God's ways by learning God's will and desires and by learning God's commands and expectations for us. That's how we learn who we are in Christ. Paul emphasized. Why are we here? What, what are we here for? Why do we exist? It's all for Jesus. It's so clear. Jesus is the source. He's our one and only source of life. So let's watch together fusions one through 14. So Paul's opening up his letter and he's speaking to the Christians in emphasis. And he's saying, I know who I am. I'm Paul, the apostle of the Lord, Jesus. And I'm living out my calling that God has given me, just like I'm calling you to do, to follow Jesus as well. The Christians in emphasis were called to live out their calling to show who they are in Christ. And they do that. He, Paul encouraged them to do that by sharing their testimony, their life testimony reflects God's testimony. And it's the same for us. Paul went on to explain in verses three through 14, about the rich blessings that

God has lavishly poured out upon us. That's how we know who we are because of our relationship to God. God's grace has no limit. It's abundant. It has no end. He doesn't give out sparingly his grace to us in his blessings to us. He gives them out generously. And we're so grateful for that.

Speaker 1 ([09:35](#)):

I want to explain why I'm finger spelling the word blessing. It's because there are two different words that are very similar, blessed, and blessing

Speaker 1 ([09:48](#)):

Just is more of to praise, to acknowledge, to honor to value and blessing is more speaking of the gift, but we often sign the same sign for both of those words. And then we miss the real meaning in the difference behind that. So in verse three, also blessed to be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ. So today I want to explain what those blessings are about our identity and seven aspects of our identity in Christ. They're just so clear. They're so easy to understand, and you can just meditate on these he's really worth living for. He gives us so much. So I'm going to tell you your seven aspects of our identity in Christ. They're found in verses four through 14. So I'm going to ask you, what is your identity? Who are you? And you can follow along.

Speaker 1 ([11:00](#)):

So in first for what is your identity? Who are you? You are chosen. God has chosen you in verse five. Who are you? What is your identity? You belong to God. You are his, you are adopted in verse six. What is your identity? Who are you? You are redeemed. God has given you a free gift in Christ. It is unconditional. You don't have to do anything to earn it in first seven. What is your identity? Who are you? You are forgiven your past, does not define you. Jesus has taken over your life. Now in verse eight and nine. What is your identity? Who are you? You are valued. You are enriched. You are important.

Speaker 2 ([12:03](#)):

And first

Speaker 1 ([12:03](#)):

10, what is your identity? Who are you? You have wisdom. You have understanding. God does not hide anything from you. He gives you all understanding. So who are you? You are enlightened first, 11 and 12. What is your identity? Who are you? God says, you're mine. You are sealed.

Speaker 2 ([12:28](#)):

That's who you are

Speaker 1 ([12:32](#)):

Such a beautiful letter. What Paul wrote to those Christians in that passage. And yet it's so easy and simple. My dear sisters, what is your identity? Who are you? You are his daughters. You are chosen, you are adopted. You are routined. You are forgiven. You are valued. You are sealed. You belong to him and you are blessed. I pray that you will listen throughout this conference and you will truly believe what you hear and that you'll own it and believe it and live it out. What I really wanted to share with you today, Paul emphasizes all these aspects of your identity in Christ. Keep on living them out because he is

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our redemption that lavish grace, that he's given how blessed we are, all the blessings that he gives. It inspires us so much that we want to live it out. We want to show what he has done for us.

Speaker 2 ([14:01](#)):

Yes.

Speaker 1 ([14:05](#)):

And I pray that for the rest of the conference, as you read throughout all of the feet, Ephesians, that you will see what God wants you to do, how God wants you to live, how God wants you to be different, because we are called to be set apart. That means that we're supposed to be different and we're caused to be blameless. We don't have to hide and shame. We can be transparent about our mistakes. We hold ourselves accountable. The Bible is clear that if we make a mistake, we can confess it openly and continue to walk as his

Speaker 2 ([14:57](#)):

Is that T U R

Speaker 1 ([15:02](#)):

It got strengthened. You left you all.