

Be Who God Says You Are”

Psaln 139:14

“I praise you because I am fearfully and Wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well”.

In the society we now live, there seems to be an atmosphere of comparison and competition. We see people comparing themselves or competing against others. Much of this stems from the fact that we are not satisfied with what we have or more importantly, who we are. We tend to be jealous and believe that because someone is accomplished or has nice material things that they are better than us. We are quick to wear their shoes without considering what they had to go through to get to where they are today. Not comparing ourselves to others can prove to be a great challenge for many of us. We compare our ministries, bodies, careers, cars, relationships, homes, families, skin and hair. The list is endless. Why does this always seem to be the case? Who made these standards that we feel the need to conform to them? Is it more important to live up to the standards of society or the standards of the Lord? There is a societal standard for everything, and we allow our insecurities to conform to what society believes to be correct and popular. If we are constantly considering, and possibly worrying about what others think about us, we will never truly understand who we are in Christ Jesus. If we conform to the societal norms we will never find out how truly amazing we are. Just as God declared to Jeremiah, he declares the same to us, *“that before we were even formed in our mother's womb he had a plan and purpose for our lives”*. The key is being who God called you to be and working the plan that he already designed for you.

I have come to the conclusion, that no matter how hard I try to seek the approval of others, people will be people and find something disapproving about me so in the end it's pointless. When in all actuality, the only one we should seek approval from is from God. I've had to tell myself over and over, it's not what people call you, it's how you answer. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, *“No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.”* We are not inferior, for we are, *“Fearfully and Wonderfully made in his image.”* Our lives have meaning in spite of being given accolades and recognition. Just because we may not have an official title, position, or great accomplishment, we must not let this hinder us from being the people that God has called us to be. For we were created for a greater purpose. We must stop wasting time trying to be something we are not. Instead, be the bold person God says you are. Be the unique person God says you are. Be the creative person God says you are. Be the funny and fabulous person God says you are. Be the kind and inspirational person God says you are! Be the *“Fearfully and Wonderfully Made”* man or woman that God created you to be!!! Don't conform, compare, or compete with others. Allow God to order your steps because you are who God says you are, and you can be all that God says you can be. Remind yourself daily that I can fit in, but God created me to stand out!!! Letting the pressures of society and people convince you otherwise will only hinder you from your great destiny.

Madilyn Ann Denise Middlebrooks



**PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH
831 S 43RD STREET
RICHMOND, CA 94804
REV. ERIC MORRIS, PASTOR
(510) 234-7728**

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