



The land of prayer for solutions

Vol. 1 No. 4

AUGUST EDITION

Youth Alive Conference 2025

UNDERSTANDING YOUR IDENTITY AND PURPOSE IN CHRIST *Romans 8:29*

Bible Text: Romans 8:29 *"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren".*

The youth conference held at our London Church on July 19th and 20th was a huge success. We saw God addressing the issues of identity and purpose through the anointed teachings and preachings that were delivered through His anointed Ministers.

The Conference was a resounding success, bringing together passionate young minds and inspiring leaders with a shared vision for a brighter future. From thought-provoking online sermons to vibrant interactive teachings and discussions in the church auditorium, the event proved to be a transformative experience for all involved. It was staged through a collective effort among adult church members and ministers. This was made possible by the dedication of organisers, volunteers, sponsors, and most importantly, the youth themselves. Their energy, ideas, and commitment turned the event into a milestone for youth empowerment. Our gratitude goes to God Almighty for the grace and privilege of being partakers in this great event, and we also express our appreciation to all our in-house guest ministers and members for their support.

What does identity and purpose in Christ mean? Let us explore this through the Bible text for the conference. Identity in Christ simply means being spiritually united with Christ through faith. God aims to shape believers into the likeness of Christ, whereby Jesus becomes the "firstborn among many brothers," meaning He leads a family of transformed people.

Key Concepts of our Bible Text, Romans 8:29

- **Foreknow:** This suggests that God had intimate knowledge of believers before they were born, not just

- It implies love and intentionality, not just foresight.
- **Predestined:** This means that God's sovereign decision, through His sovereign decision, has set a destiny for individuals before they were born; God had a purpose set in advance. It's about God's overarching plan to shape believers into the likeness of Christ. **Conformed to the image of His Son:** The goal of salvation isn't just forgiveness—it's transformation. God's plan is for believers to grow in character, love, humility, and holiness, reflecting Jesus more and more in their daily living.
- **Firstborn among many brothers:** Jesus is the model and leader of a new spiritual family. Believers are adopted into this family, with Christ as the elder brother.

What Does It Mean for You As A Believer?

- You're not an accident; God knew you, loved you, and has a purpose for your life.
- Your spiritual journey is about becoming more like Jesus, not just in behaviour, but in heart. You belong to a commonwealth family of faith, with Jesus leading the way.

The issue of identity is often accompanied by fear and insecurity. In the Book of *Judges, chapter 6:1-16*, Gideon, like all of Israel, did not know his true identity until God revealed it to him. When the Angel appeared and said, "*The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour*" ... "*Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites,*" he was confused and did not understand what the Angel was saying because his impoverished situation and family background contrasted sharply with the message. Similarly, many faithful today fail to recognise their new standing in Christ and assess themselves based on their circumstances rather than God's promises in His word.

In John 14:6, Jesus declares, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." This statement signifies that Jesus is your passport to the Father and His Kingdom. Just as a passport identifies your nationality and grants you access to another country, it is impossible to enter a different nation without it as proof of identity. Likewise, since life on earth is transient, as ambassadors of the heavenly kingdom, our passport to Heaven is found in our identity and purpose in Christ. Until we understand and embrace this, it remains impossible to access all our redemptive rights in Him.

The Bible says;

1. By faith, you are in union with Christ (Gal 2:20, Romans 6:5)
2. By faith, you are a new Creation (2Corinthians 5:17)
3. By faith, you are adopted as Children of God (Romans 8:15-17, John 1:12)
4. By faith, you are declared righteous and justified (2 Corinthians 5:21)
5. By faith, you have a purpose (Ephesians 2:10).

Understanding and embracing our identity and purpose in Christ has Implications for our daily life; it is not just a theological concept; it is a means to shape how we live our lives every day. When you truly understand who you are in Christ, it transforms your values, choices, and how you respond to life challenges like insecurity, freedom, purpose, anxiety, and fear. This helps you to develop awareness that you now belong to a commonwealth of spiritual Israelites, the church and a joint heir together with Christ (Romans 8:17).

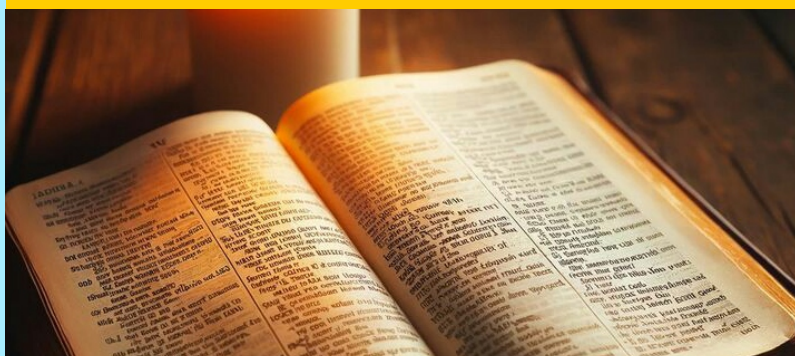
How Does Identity in Christ Impacts Daily Decisions and Behaviour?

1. **Moral Choices and Integrity** – it helps you to reflect Christ's character, whereby your decisions are guided by biblical values like honesty, purity and compassion.
2. **Relationship and forgiveness** – Identity and purpose in Christ empower individuals to forgive; you treat others with empathy, sacrificial love, and reconciliation, through the grace you have received.
3. **Handling temptation and struggles** – remember you are no more a slave to sin, you rely on the Holy Spirit to strengthen and guide you with wisdom.

4. **Confidence and self-worth** – Understanding of this concept helps individuals to stop seeking validation from others and understand that their worth is in Christ, so they start to make decisions from the heart of confidence and not from insecurity.
5. **Generosity and Service** – Understanding of this concept helps believers to see their time, money, and talents as a gift from God to be stewarded. They will be inclined to help others, knowing that their identity is rooted in selfless love.
3. **Servant Leadership** – Identity and purpose in Christ is a call to serve – every leader is encouraged and called to lead with humility and help others to succeed.
4. **Purpose not seeking self-gratification or paycheck** – You are created for good work – see your assignment as a platform for impact, not just income, encourage others, be a team player, engage in problem solving endeavours and not creating problems or becoming a stonmbbling block to others also bring hope to others, even in their seemingly hopeless situation (Ephesians 2:10)
5. **Resilience in Setbacks** – Your identity in Christ enables you to understand that you are secured in Christ, you are not defined by failure – bounce back from criticism and disappointments with faith and perspective. Praying through your period of disappointment and discouragement and trusting more and more in God's plan for your life (Romans 8:28)
6. **Respect and Honour** – Your new identity brings you the awareness that you are part of the Kingdom with culture – treat everyone – people of other faith, Leaders, bosses, clients, peers, with dignity and respect, speaking respectfully even when you disagree with them.

Practical tips for living it out

1. Start your day with prayer.
2. Keep the truth of the Word of God in your heart during the moment of stress and temptation.
3. Reflect on how your identity shaped your response to life situations.
4. Connect with other fellow believers for Prayers, encouragement and accountability.



Sermon Excerpts from Youth Alive Conference 2025



Pastor Anu Julius

He speaker reflects on the foreknowledge of the creation by the creator. He emphasises that God had intimate knowledge of believers before they were born, and that God has set a destiny for individuals before they were born; and also that God had a purpose set in advance before their physical existence on the planet earth. We are told we are not accidental occurrences; we have predestination with God. (Romans 8:29, Jeremiah 1:5)

We are made to understand that, as we don't have the power to choose our biological parents, what we will be or become is about God's overarching plan to shape believers into His divine WILL. Believers were elected and chosen to grow into the likeness of His Son Jesus Christ. He highlights that our assignment is our purpose, and until we walk in His purpose, our impact in life becomes an impossible task to accomplish. He retorted on the following steps as a platform to identify our identity.

1. The Journey of identity starts with a relational relationship with God.
2. Your focus must be on God's approval and not on people's gratification.
3. See yourself in what God says as God's image, wonderfully and fearfully created (Gen.1:27)
4. Importance of reconciliation
5. Member of a new spiritual family by adoption
6. We are gifted with the person of the Holy Spirit

In conclusion, he admonished us that our purpose is the reason for our existence, and this could only be found in the Word of God, the Holy Bible and established with a relational relationship with Jesus.

Topic: Understand Christ, and the rest will follow by Pastor Tobi:

To perceive the meaning as significant and worthy,

- ❖ False identity can kill more than failure can kill (example, Amy Winehouse)
- ❖ Tiger Woods famous golf star, never found his identity outside the golf course, making life challenging for him outside the circle he identified himself with
- ❖ We are not self-defined, we are God defined (Gen 1:27, Jeremiah 1:5).
- ❖ Knowing God is essential to knowing ourselves
Prayer: Father, remove every cloud that covers my true identity in you.

- ❖ The problem of identity is that we know ourselves first before we know the creator of life (knowing an apple before we know the creator of apples is a false identity, and this created the problem for man in the Garden of Eden)

Pastor Ayo Aderele

Pastor Ayo starts by reflecting on the earlier teaching and appreciating the first speaker for an insightful teaching. He started by exploring the theological dimension of creation through the Book of Genesis 1:26-29. Through the scriptures, he emphasises that;

1. Humans were created in God's Image; we are the carriers of God's divine nature and creative ability.
2. We must be aware that, as there is a trait of the personality of a mentor on the mentee, so also we are carriers of divine nature, though lost due to lack of identity and purpose, but was reestablished through faith in Christ.

In his inspiring teaching, he identifies the problem of "Mindset" as a significant issue that hinders individual ability and makes one static in life. The problem of mindset implies a fixed and limited way of thinking that hinders personal growth, problem-solving solving and overall spiritual and physical well-being.

He identifies ignorance of believers as a key factor that makes them walk in slavery and servitude, a lack of knowledge of identity and purpose, as their new position in Christ serves as devil ground for depravity and denies access to redemptive provisions. He highlighted that to overcome this mediocrity, there is a need for a change of mentality through a sound understanding of one's true identity. He encourages the youth to start to aim and aspire high through the "**Power of Positive Confession**"

He advises the youth to reassure themselves with positive confession when they are faced with challenging situations.

For example;

- a. Acknowledge who you are in Christ and confess your new position.
- b. Say to yourself, "I am called for great works, created for a purpose.

He assured the youth that their mental power will begin to respond to what they feed it with, and this will trigger the transformation of the individual's mindset.

The youth were encouraged that if they do not see what they desire now, they should be patient and wait for it. Even if they have experienced failure before, they should have an attitude of resiliency in setbacks. He encouraged them to bounce back from criticism and disappointment, with faith and perspective.

Practical Tips:

1. Be led by the Spirit of God
2. If you do not gain the speed you desire, be patient
3. Know God and serve Him from the days of your youth.

Key To Stay in Purpose:

He encouraged the youth to understand the efficacy of prayer, as a sustainable spiritual weapon which guarantees success and victory in the pursuit of purpose in Christ and helps to produce desired and intended results in life. He admonished that parental prayer isn't enough at this stage of their life, and he encouraged them to DIY at the Altar of prayer by starting every day with prayer and ending with prayer, not to end life as the children of Job.

Highlights Of The Event:

Keynote Speakers: Influential leaders and changemakers shared powerful messages on identity, Purpose, foreknowledge, and creation created in the image of God. This is a summary of the teachings.

CONCLUSION

The Christ Ladder Ministries Youth Alive Conference 2025 has been an incredible journey of faith, learning, and transformation. During the programme, we witnessed the power of unity, the strength of community, and the profound impact of God's word on our lives. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for the inspiring speakers, and the heartfelt worship sessions that have brought us closer to God and to one another.

Though the conference might have been concluded, let us carry forward the lessons we have learned and the connections we have made. Let us continue to grow in our faith, support one another, and strive to reflect our identity and purpose in Christ with love, humility and character of Christ in our daily lives. Remember, this is not the end but the beginning of a new chapter in our spiritual journey.

Thank you to everyone who made this conference a success – the organising Team, volunteers, speakers, and participants. Your dedication and passion have truly made a difference. May God bless you all abundantly as you go forth to make a positive impact in our communities and beyond.

Shalom.

Power Quotes

1. "You were known before you were born, called before you could hear, and chosen to reflect the image of Christ."
2. "Purpose isn't something you create it's something you discover in Christ."
3. "God didn't just save you He's shaping you."
4. "You are not an accident; you are God's design with a divine destination."
5. "To know your purpose, you must first know your identity in Christ."
6. "Your destiny is not a mystery it's a masterpiece being painted by the Master."
7. "Jesus is not just your Saviour He is your example, your family, and your future."

Church Bank Account Details

Christ Ladder Ministries
Sort Code - 6009 16

Account number - 73524298

NatWest Bank

FOR TESTIMONIES & THANKSGIVING:

Please send your testimonies by text to church mobile no. 07916178445 or the church email: christistheladderministries@gmail.com, or info@christistheladderministries.co.uk

Please note that testimonies will be taken place every sunday.

We implore all members to continue to check the church whatsapp group page for any updates/information.

Any other announcement will be made known via whatsapp.

ANNOUNCEMENT

1. CLM Global Convention 2025

Mark your calendar for the Global Convention

Theme: Beauty for Ashes "1 Chronicles 4:9-10"

Date: 18th-24th August, 2025

Venue: Ibadan Headquarters .

Come expectant for a time of spiritual renewal and divine encounter!

Daily devotion holds every morning from 6am to 6:30am (Monday to Saturday) please connect to the morning prayer by joining us on the whatsapp ensure you mute your phone immediately you join.

Sunday - English Prayer Conference 9pm - 10pm
Church Auditorium

Tuesday – Restoration - 10am – 11am (online)

Wednesday – Bible lecture – 7pm – 8.30pm (online)

Thursday – Yoruba prayer program – 7pm – 8pm

CLM women empowerment prayer holds every sunday from 6pm to 6.30pm.

Monthly vigil hold's every last friday of the month for the month of August, the vigil is scheduled for friday 29 August from 10pm to

The crossover night for August is Sunday 31st August from 11.30pm to 12.30am.

Temi asese – a Yoruba special program holds every 1 and 3rd saturday of the month. (both visually and physical).

When you make payment either through the envelope or on line, please signify what you are paying for. whether it is tithe or offering.

Please remember to make your payment towards the Church building, those who pledged support are encourage to begin redeeming their promises and you can also set up a standing order to ensure your contribution is deducted on a date you choose.

Special thanksgiving, child dedication, wedding, birthday celebration thanksgiving will hold every first sunday of the month. the covenant day of prayer will be last sunday of the month.

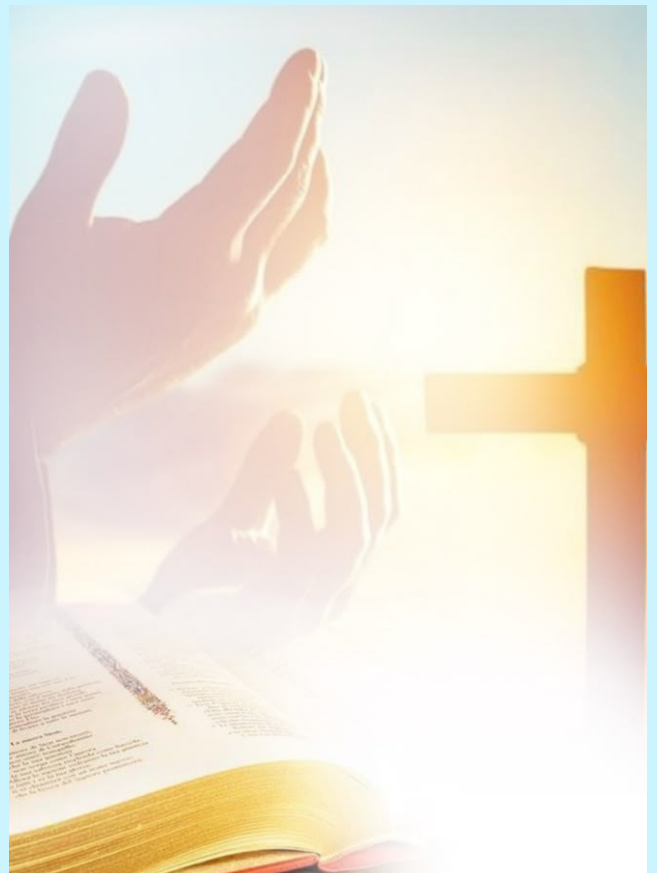
Church Building Bank Account details

Christ Ladder Ministries

Sort Code: 60-09-16

Account number - **73799807**

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PICTURES FROM YOUTH ALIVE CONFERENCE 2025

KNOWN. CHOSEN. TRANSFORMED

This year's Youth Conference, held at our London church on July 19th and 20th was more than an event it was a divine encounter. Centered around the powerful theme 'Understanding Your Identity and Purpose in Christ', the conference brought young hearts face to face with the truth of Romans 8:9. Through vibrant teachings, anointed preachings, and sincere fellowship, the Lord revealed His eternal blueprint: that we were foreknown, predestined, and conformed into the image of His Son. Each session was a reminder that we are not lost in the crowd we are personally called by God, shaped by grace, and positioned for purpose. This edition dives into the truths that were shared, the lives that were changed, and how young believers can walk boldly in their identity in Christ.

