

## Sermon Outline “Identity Theft”

7.20.25

Isaiah 43:1-7 & Galatians 2:16-20

### I. Introduction: When a Lie Feels Real

- **Main Point:** Lies can look believable—and cost us dearly if we fall for them.
- **Spiritual Parallel:** Just like scammers, the enemy deceives us to steal something deeper—our spiritual identity.

### II. The Enemy’s Strategy: Deception

- **Scripture:** John 8:44 – The devil is the father of lies.
- **Key Lie:** “You have to be strong. You can’t show weakness.”
- **Cultural Pressure:** Be perfect, hold it together, don’t fail.
- **Spiritual Impact:** This lie keeps us from bringing our burdens to God.

### III. Biblical Example: Jacob’s Struggle and Identity Change

- **Scripture:** Genesis 32–33
- **Jacob’s Life:** Strived for success by his own strength (work, love, family).
- **Unresolved Wound:** His broken relationship with Esau.
- **Turning Point:** Wrestling with God—injury led to dependence.
- **New Identity:** God renamed him *Israel*, symbolizing grace and transformation.
- **Restoration:** God reconciled Jacob and Esau.

### IV. God’s Power in Our Weakness

- **Point:** We all have limits. God has no limit.
- **Scripture:** Isaiah 43:1–3 – “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.”
- **Application:** Let God carry you when you're overwhelmed. He has the power to save.

### V. Our Identity in Christ

- **Scripture:** Galatians 2:20 – “I have been crucified with Christ...”
- **Key Truths:**
  - We don’t live by our strength, but by Christ in us.
  - God meets us in our vulnerability, not our perfection.
  - Our identity is not what we do, but who we are in Christ.

### VI. Conclusion: Living from God’s Strength

- **Encouragement:** You don’t have to pretend to be strong.
- **Reminder:** God knows you, loves you, and redeems you.
- **Mission:** As individuals and as a church, we fulfill our calling when we offer our weakness to God and trust Him to work through it.