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## *Chapter 1: WHO AM I? COURAGE TO QUESTION, FAITH TO FIND THE ANSWER*

1. Think about how you introduce yourself when you meet someone for the first time or how you describe yourself in social media. How are these descriptors and categories helpful in finding identity? How do they limit us?
2. Where have women traditionally been expected to find their identity?
3. Why is it important to start the search for identity with God?
4. Do you tend to be a person who accepts things at face value or are you a person who questions? How does this affect your search for identity? In what areas might you need to question more? To trust more?
5. How does it affect your thoughts and emotions to realize that you are made in God's image? What about His plan to make us like Himself?



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## *Chapter 2: IMAGO DEI: LIFE AS IT IS MEANT TO BE*

1. Do you ever feel insignificant—that your life is not as valuable or meaningful as someone else’s? If so, why do you feel this way?
2. What messages does society send us about what makes a person valuable? What messages does the church sometimes convey?
3. We often associate finding identity with independence and autonomy. How does Scripture present imago dei identity?
4. Why is community an important part of finding personal identity?
5. Imago dei identity is found in the convergence of our relationship with God, with others, and with creation. How do these aspects of imago dei build on one another?



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## *Chapter 3:* **EAST OF EDEN: WHEN EVERYTHING GOES TERRIBLY WRONG**

1. Do you remember a time in your life when everything seemed simpler, when knowing where you belonged and what you were made to do was not complicated? Describe that time.
2. How does Romans 3:23 describe sin?
3. We often talk about how sin is an affront to God's nature and how it harms other people. How does sin harm you as an individual? How can it warp your sense of personal identity and wholeness?
4. In what things, people, or relationships are you tempted to find your source of identity? Think about what "sets you off" or leads you to sin.
5. What comes to mind when you hear the words "God's Law"? Do you see "God's Law" as a goal to meet? a heavy burden? Something else? Explain.



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## *Chapter 4:* **MADE LIKE HIM: FINDING YOUR LIFE BY LOSING YOURSELF IN HIM**

1. Do you find it easier to accept Jesus' divinity or His humanity? Why is it necessary to accept both?
2. What does it mean to “find identity” Christ? Try to answer this without using theological words.
3. Why is it limiting to pinpoint when we found our identity in Christ to a particular moment in time? What can happen if we do this?
4. People often talk about the need to be “authentic” in the search for identity. How does the Scripture define authenticity? How does it teach us we will find our “true selves”?
5. How does understanding that the purpose of your life is to become like Jesus change your spiritual walk?



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## *Chapter 5:* **LOOKING FOR LOVE: HOW YOUR HEART MAKES YOU WHO YOU ARE**

1. Some church traditions are highly emotional and others place a strong emphasis on the mind. What do you see in yourself? Do you tend to be emotive or cerebral in how you process your own life?
2. What does the Scripture mean when it uses the word “heart” to describe the core being of a person? Is it describing an emotional response? something more? Explain.
3. Ask yourself the list of questions that are designed to reveal what you love. What are you tempted to love more than you love God?
4. Sometimes we think that loving God supremely means we can’t love other things or people. Based on what you already know about imago dei identity, why is this not an accurate understanding of what it means to love like God loves?
5. Why might it seem that God’s Law and His love are often at odds? Why are they not?
6. How does God’s love transform us to be people who love like Him?



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## *Chapter 6: GOOD GRACIOUS ME: CULTIVATING A LARGE, GENEROUS SOUL*

1. Think about the most gracious person you know. How would you describe him or her?
2. What is grace? Try to answer this without using theological terms.
3. What are some characteristics of people, societies, churches, or families that lack grace? Have you experienced a group like this, either by being part of one or encountering one? What is it like?
4. How does grace make us “more fully human”? Why is grace essential to imago dei identity?
5. What does offering grace to another person teach them about themselves?
6. What is necessary for us to be able to extend grace to others?



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## *Chapter 7: LADY WISDOM: THINKING GOD'S THOUGHTS AFTER HIM*

1. How do the head and the heart connect?
2. Think about your relationship to learning. Are you surprised that pursuing wisdom and knowledge is necessary to imago dei identity? Why or why not?
3. What is the difference between “true” knowledge and “false” knowledge?
4. Do you find yourself restricting your study of Scripture to “pink passages”? Why do some women tend to do this?
5. Although knowledge is essential to imago dei identity, it is not the source of our identity. What happens to a person when she tries to find her identity in her intellect?
6. What should learning do for us?





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## *Chapter 8:* **QUEENS IN NARNIA: EMBRACING YOUR DESTINY TO REIGN**

1. How does society determine what kind of work is valuable?
2. How has our work been corrupted by sin? In what ways do we look to our work for identity?
3. What is a true definition of or understanding of work?
4. Think about what you love and where you are gifted. How are you developing these gifts in service of God and others? Are you ever tempted to pursue your gifting to the detriment of those closest to you?
5. How do you understand the relationship between your home and the marketplace? Are you able to live holistically in both, or do you feel a tension between them? How does an *imago dei* understanding of work alleviate this tension?
6. What makes your work valuable?



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## *Chapter 9:* **TOWARD PERFECT UNION: LIVING HOLISTICALLY IN A FRACTURED WORLD**

1. Name some things that people do to achieve a simpler, more holistic life. What are some things that you have done personally?
2. What about being an image bearer leads us to desire a life of peace and unity?
3. What does the complexity of God's nature mean for us as image bearers? Why is paradox important to understanding God and ourselves?
4. What are the challenges to being both a physical and spiritual being? Which "side" of yourself do you tend to emphasize?
5. Do you ever feel like your womanhood is at odds with you personhood? In what ways?
6. Is it possible to achieve peace in the midst of complexity? How do we pursue peace?



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## *Chapter 10: A KIND PROVIDENCE: WHEN JESUS LEADS YOU ALL THE WAY*

1. What aspects of your life or your identity do you find difficult to embrace?
2. How does knowing that God formed your personality and life circumstances change how you see yourself? Do you find yourself frustrated with Him for certain things? Like what?
3. What two attributes of God's nature are necessary for you to be at peace with your identity?
4. What happens in our souls if we only embrace God's power? What happens if we only embrace His love?
5. Why is a victim mentality inconsistent with imago dei identity?
6. How do we reflect both God's power and His love in our own lives?



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## *Chapter 11:* **BECOMING REAL: LIVING AS A WORK IN PROGRESS**

1. What does it mean to become “real”?
2. In what area of your spiritual experience do you struggle the most? Do you feel inauthentic when you struggle? Why do we struggle? Is struggling always a negative?
3. What does God promise He will do for us in the midst of the struggle?
4. What can you expect to happen as you continue in your spiritual life? Is this true of your experience?
5. How does God’s faithfulness to us allow us to reflect faithfulness back to Him?



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## *Chapter 12:* HOPE OF GLORY: ETERNAL LIFE IN THE HERE AND NOW

1. Think about who you were fifteen years ago, ten years ago, and five years ago. What has changed and what has stayed the same?
2. Do we tend to resist the cycles of life? Why? How might people handle the helplessness that comes with the passage of time?
3. What truth about God's nature frees us to embrace each season of life with joy?
4. Why do we fear growing older? What do you most fear about death?
5. What comes to mind when you think about eternal life? How does Scripture speak about eternal life?
6. How does knowing that you are destined to reflect God's nature change your life in the here and now?





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