



**GREAT
FAITH**

Faith Journey

“How would my life be different if I really believed this (the Bible) from the bottom of my heart? How would it change my thinking, feelings, actions? How would it change my relationships? How would it change my prayer life, my feelings and attitude toward God?”

(Timothy Keller)



Abraham – Hero of Faith

Genesis 12:1-9; 22:1-19

Growing of deep faith is a journey of life

Permanent Neighbor of Faith

- Most repeated command
- Fear Not (365 times)
- Fear is a liar

Jesus's sermon in Matthew 5-7

- Highly disturbing
- Keyword- *Father*
(5:45,48; 6:1,4,6(x2), 8, 9-10, 18)
- Key problem –Identity 'Who Am I'

Identity – Who Am I?

- I am what I do.
- I am what other people say about me.
- I am what I have.

“The greatest trap in life is not success, popularity, or power, but self-rejection, doubting who we truly are.”

(Henri Nouwen)



“Our Father in heaven ...” from a son / daughter.

You are God’s beloved!

The Son of God became the Son of Man so that
the son of man can become the son of God

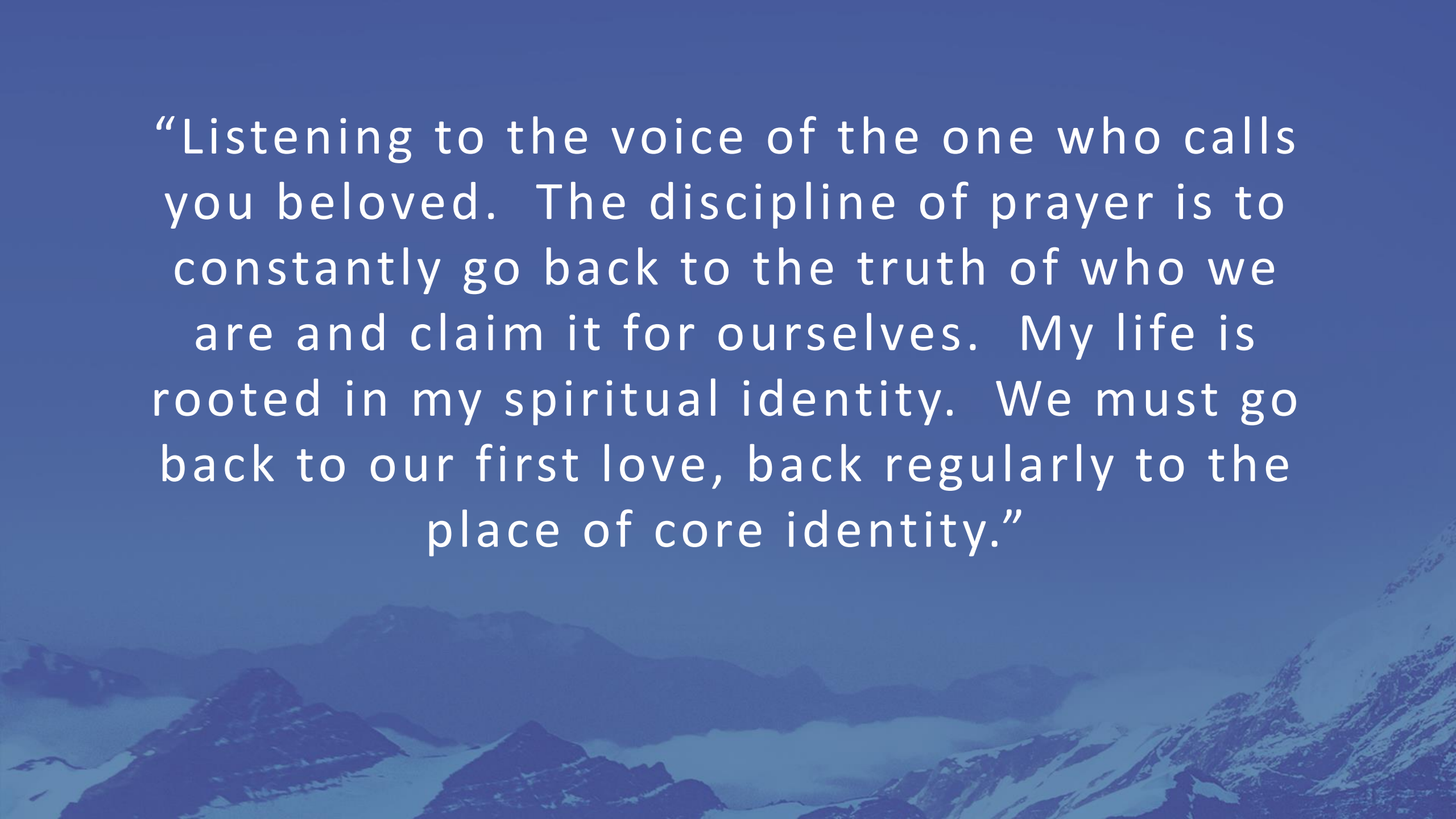


If I am the beloved of God, how do I claim my belovedness?

Journey of becoming the beloved

- Boundary destroyed (Genesis 3-11)
- Boundary created – The Discipline of Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

“Prayer is a discipline. Discipline means to create boundaries around our meeting with God. Our times and places can’t be so filled up that there is no way of meeting. So you have to work very hard to say, this is the time in which I am with God, whether I like it or not, whether I feel like it, whether it satisfies me. You go back to the place of solitude with God and claim who you are.”



“Listening to the voice of the one who calls you beloved. The discipline of prayer is to constantly go back to the truth of who we are and claim it for ourselves. My life is rooted in my spiritual identity. We must go back to our first love, back regularly to the place of core identity.”

Conclusion

- Faith is a journey
- Fear seeks to destroy Faith
- Faith is built through knowing God and who we are to him
- Through prayer we hear God's voice of affirmation love





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