

## What Makes Me...Me?

Identity: Making A Positive ID #4-7

Tim Gill - August 10, 2014

*I praise you because you made me in such a wonderful way.*

**Psalms 139:14a (ERV)**

### What makes 'me', me?

#### 1. My chemistry.

*You are the one who put me together inside my mother's body.*

**Psalms 139:13 (CEV)**

- The most basic level that identifies me is biological.

#### 2. My connections.

*Be friends with those who are wise, and you will become wise.*

*Choose fools to be your friends, and you will have trouble.*

**Proverbs 13:20 (ERV)**

- I am a product of my relationships.

#### 3. My circumstances.

- Circumstances are the things that happen to me.

*Sometimes something useless happens on earth. Bad things happen to good people, and good things happen to bad people.*

**Ecclesiastes 8:14 (NCV)**

#### 4. My consciousness.

- My consciousness is how I think and feel about myself.

*As water reflects your face, so your mind shows what kind of person you are.*

**Proverbs 27:19 (NCV)**

#### 5. My choices.

*You can choose life or death. The first choice will bring a blessing. The other choice will bring a curse. So choose life!*

**Deuteronomy 30:19 (ERV)**

- The freedom to choose can be a blessing or a curse.

## Four choices I can make...

#### 1. I didn't choose my body...

... but I can choose how to use it.

*You have been bought and paid for, so honor God with your body.*

**1 Corinthians 6:20 (CEB)**

*As you know, it was because of an illness that I first preached the gospel to you, <sup>14</sup> and even though my illness was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead, you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself.*

**Galatians 4:13-14 (NIV)**

#### 2. I didn't choose some of my relationships...

... but I can choose to deepen my relationships.

*The righteous choose their friends carefully.* **Proverbs 12:26 (NIV)**

#### 3. I didn't choose my circumstances...

...but I can choose my response.

*I will praise the Lord no matter what happens.* **Psalms 34:1 (TLB)**

*I have learned to be satisfied with what I have and with whatever happens. <sup>12</sup> ...I have learned the secret of how to live through any kind of situation...<sup>13</sup> Christ is the one who gives me the strength I need to do whatever I must do.*

**Philippians 4:11-13 (ERV)**

#### 4. I don't choose what others think or say about me...

... but I can choose what I will dwell on.

*Above all, be careful what you think because your thoughts control your life.*

**Proverbs 4:23 (ERV)**

*...focus your thoughts on what is true, noble, righteous, pure, lovable or admirable, on some virtue or on something praiseworthy.*

**Philippians 4:8 (CJB)**