



## “CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM”

Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8

THE PASTOR’S PEN

May 9, 2021

## WHO I AM – WHY I AM – WHAT I DO - - Part 1 1

*If you know who you are, you do not need permission to do what you do*

**Dr. Anthony Mensah**

Knowing that *God created me on purpose* and *God created me with a purpose* moves me closer to knowing who I am. The significance of knowing who I am is knowing that I am free to be me and do me without having to seek someone else’s permission or approval. Far too many people that I have encountered are living in the shadow of others, waiting for the blessing of those individuals to fulfill their purpose.

Here is the truth: If you are waiting for someone else’s permission or approval to be you and do you, you will be disappointed. If you think about it, how can someone who does not know who they are give you permission or approval to be you and do you? Therefore, there are two things that I need to know: I need to know who I am, and I need to know who I am not.

### **Do I know who I am?**

<sup>2</sup> *And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray Him,*

<sup>3</sup> *Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God,<sup>4</sup> rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself.<sup>5</sup> After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. (John 13:2-5)*

When Jesus took on the role of a servant and washed His disciples’ feet, He did what He did because He knew who He was. First, Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into His hands – that is, Jesus knew that He had power and authority. Power is the Greek word *Dunamis*, and is the word from where we get our word, dynamite. The word Authority is the Greek word *Exousia*, and means the right to exercise power. Jesus’ power was like a spiritual dynamite, having the ability to move and remove anything and/or anyone who would attempt to oppose and/or obstruct the fulfillment of His God-given mission, and Jesus possessed the right to exercise that power.

Second, Jesus knew that He came from God – that is, Jesus knew from where He came. Jesus knew that He came from the Father. Jesus knew His heavenly beginnings prior to His earthly existence. Jesus knew the glory and honor that He once received in heaven prior to the diminishing and denying that He received on earth. Consequently, Jesus focused more on where He had come from where He was.

Third, Jesus knew where He was going – that is, Jesus knew that He was going back to the Father. Jesus, knowing where He was going, also knew that the diminishing and denying was a part of the journey on His way to the Father. Accordingly, Jesus was able to appreciate the trials of the journey on His way to the destination.

When I know who I am, I can do whatever is necessary – even washing someone’s feet – to fulfill my God-given calling. Like Jesus, when I know who I am, I know what I have (*the power and authority to do what I am called to do*), I know from where I came (*I came from the Father which is far above where I may be*), and I know where I am going (*I am going to the Father, and can appreciate the trials of the journey on my way to the destination*).

## WORK FOR THE WEEK

### MAY MEMORY VERSE

<sup>38</sup> Now the just shall live by faith; But if *anyone* draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.”

Hebrews 10:38

### MAY MEDITATION QUOTE

“From Moses to Jesus, the Bible tells us that those who fought for justice—those who spoke truth to power, those who refused to accept that injustice and inequality had to exist and that there was no better way—always found themselves hated, hounded, and heaped upon with false accusations simply because they believed in the necessity of speaking and working for the cause of righteousness and building a more just community. This lack of majority support is why the just must live by faith and must know exactly who we are.”

William J. Barber II, *Forward Together: A Moral Message for the Nation*

### TODAY'S STUDY QUESTIONS AND MEDITATION:

Do I really believe that God does whatever He pleases? Really? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I need to place every idol in my life in its proper place? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### FOR THE YOUTH

Who is the person that you personally know that is the closest to doing whatever they please? \_\_\_\_\_

What does it mean for you to know that God does whatever He pleases? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_