



BEYOND BALANCE

Beyond Balance: Identity | Galatians 2:20-21

Galatians 2:20-21

²⁰I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

“Whether your resolution is to lose weight, stop smoking, or finally catch that road runner, research suggests that whether you achieve the goal or not might not matter as much for our overall happiness as we like to think.” –Maggie Koerth, *Happy New Year! Your Resolutions Won’t Bring You Joy*

The identity we need—and have—in Jesus...takes ownership of our own darkness, rather than ignoring it or being consumed by it.

Galatians 2:20a

²⁰I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.

The identity we need—and have—in Jesus...is given by grace and received by faith, rather than earned by performance.

“...recent studies have declared millennials [to be] the most anxious generation in history. Anxiety comes in many forms, but the simplest way to describe it is feeling worried or nervous about the future or uncertain situations.” –Jody Scott, *Vogue*

Galatians 2:20b-21

And the life I now live in the flesh **I live by faith** in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.²¹ **I do not nullify the grace of God**, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

The identity we need—and have—in Jesus...is a relationship, rather than a concept.

Galatians 2:20b

...I live by faith in the Son of God, **who loved me and gave himself for me.**

"Is not this the invitation of the gospel? We can own up to who we really are in the presence of God, who loves us beyond all measure. We can repent and surrender our false-self strategies to the One who lived, died, was raised and ascended to heaven. As we do, both initially and daily, the interpretation of our story changes. And when our interpretation changes, so does our identity." —Richard Plass and James Cofield, *The Relational Soul*