

Chapter 7

Navigating The Stages of *BEcoming*

In exploring the stages of becoming, five critical points emerge, comparable to a roadmap for self-discovery. Each stage unfolds a layer of understanding and clarity, directing us toward a profound awareness of our true identity.

5 Stages of *BEcoming*

- **Awareness:** Understand your identity and acknowledge who you are.
- **Acceptance:** Embrace your dignity and accept your unique qualities and purpose.
- **Access:** Position your identity in a place of access to receive growth, guidance, and wisdom.
- **Alignment:** Align your identity with God's will and purpose for your life.
- **Affirmation:** Recognize and celebrate the transformative work that God has done within you. Live out your purpose confidently, knowing you are loved, accepted, and valued just as you are.

Awareness

The process of *BEcoming* unfolds through mindfulness and awareness. Recognizing that a common challenge in this journey is the lack of understanding of our identity, we actively participate in mindfulness practices such as reading, studying the Word,

contemplative prayer, discipleship, mentorship and self-reflection. This becomes paramount as we establish a foundation for comprehension and clarity, realizing that our identity surpasses current perceptions.

Psalms 8 amplifies this divine connection, posing the question of humanity's significance amidst the heavens, celestial bodies, and the wonders set in place. The poetic structure intertwines person, position, and performance, highlighting our unique place in the grand order.

In *Genesis*, the discovery unfolds that we are intricately crafted in the image and likeness of God. Recognizing this divine image prompts us to acknowledge our potential for greatness, love, and creativity. This introspective process invites us to be fully present, embracing thoughts and feelings without judgment and delving into a profound understanding of our values and aspirations.

Intentional awareness of who we are brings forth a responsibility that necessitates teaching and fathering. The importance of being coached on responsibility is underscored, drawing parallels to God's teaching of Adam's responsibility in the Garden of Eden.

Genesis 1-2 illustrates God's profound awareness of humanity's significance in the intricate design of creation. This awareness, nurtured through mindfulness and a deep connection with God, unveils a genuine understanding and appreciation of who we are.

Jesus, in his teachings, calls the disciples to a heightened state of awareness. This constant awareness is exemplified in his encounter with Satan, where knowing His identity empowers him to respond

effectively. Jesus serves as a model, showcasing that becoming aware is a transformative process accessible to us.

Essentially, the narrative unfolds seamlessly, guiding us through the intricate tapestry of mindfulness, awareness, and understanding of our identity. The journey of ***BEcoming*** is rooted in teachings, coaching and fathering; it becomes a dynamic and evolving process, echoing biblical narratives and providing a blueprint for our transformative self-discovery.

Identity in the Business World and Beyond

The need for constant awareness of one's identity is highlighted in the business world and other areas of life. Daily challenges can push individuals towards compromise, unethical behavior, or cutting corners. Societal norms may conflict with ethical principles, emphasizing the importance of steadfast awareness. The temptations faced in business and everyday life are reminiscent of biblical teachings urging us to walk in the spirit, not the flesh. This constant awareness requires a sense of responsibility, where individuals need guidance and coaching to navigate challenges and remain true to their identity.

Drawing inspiration from the example of Jesus facing temptations, the response lies in grounding oneself in the word of God. The more we understand the word, the stronger our foundation for withstanding societal pressures. Thus, the threefold cord of teaching, coaching and fathering becomes crucial, mirroring God's guidance to Adam in the Garden of Eden.

God's teachings to Adam, assigning positions, giving performance expectations, and setting boundaries, resonate with the business world's need for structure and responsibility. It becomes a poignant

reminder that despite our potential, we must operate within the limits of authority, showcasing a balance between limitless potential and responsible conduct.

Seamless Integration in Jesus' Teachings

In continuation, Jesus seamlessly integrates teaching, coaching, and fathering into his interactions with the disciples. His actions, from washing their feet to instructing them to be fishers of men, follow him, take up their cross, and die daily. Jesus imparts spiritual insights, practical logistics, management, and supernatural power lessons. As he guides them to gather resources to feed the multitude, he instills responsibility principles and effective resource management. The leftover fragments in baskets of twelve symbolize the disciples' newfound responsibility for managing the increase.

Lessons and principles go hand in hand in Jesus' teachings. The principles are the tangible application of the spiritual laws conveyed through lessons. Fathering, Parental Leadership, then bridges the gap, helping individuals understand the organic connection between these principles and their personal and collective lives. This intricate blend of teaching, coaching, and fathering shapes a holistic understanding that ensures the lessons are not lost but are actively applied.

This approach extends beyond mere actions; it transforms lives personally and professionally. Fathering, Parental Leadership, as a concept, plays a pivotal role in shaping an individual's identity. It is not just a matter of what one does or teaches but causes us to dig into the essence of who we are—our DNA, identity, and lifestyle. Fathers guide individuals in defining their lifestyle based on the

teachings they have received and the principles they can coach. This clarity in self-definition becomes the foundation for effective teaching, coaching, and fathering of others.

The Metaphor of the Garden Institute of Technology

The metaphorical depiction of the *Garden of Eden as the Garden Institute of Technology* enriches the narrative. It serves as a symbolic school where humanity comprehends its distinct purpose within the limits of humanity while exploring unlimited spiritual potential. The Lord's teachings in this metaphorical school highlight the balance between human limitations and boundless spiritual abilities.

Segueing into the concept of responsibility, the role of a teaching coach is illuminated. Like cultivating a child's behavior, responsibility requires a deliberate and nurturing approach. It is not merely bestowed but cultivated over time, much like tending to a child's room. The analogy emphasizes the importance of consistently working on and nurturing responsibility as a behavioral aspect.

To clarify the distinction between teaching and cultivation, teaching involves conveying concepts and purposes, whereas cultivation extends to the agricultural realm. It encompasses planting the seed and ensuring proper soil preparation, watering, fertilization, and care. Teaching imparts knowledge, while cultivation provides practical application and growth.