

**PROCLAIMING TRUTH MINISTRIES**  
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**INFORMATION ARTICLE**  
**“YOU ARE DEFINED BY THE DECISIONS YOU MAKE”**  
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As human beings, one of the most common ways we tend to categorize ourselves is by the environment in which we live. We often use labels such as our hometown, social status, or cultural background to define ourselves. However, this perspective is based on a limited understanding of our identity. In reality, we are not defined by our surroundings, but rather by the decisions we make. This truth is rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and has the potential to transform our lives profoundly.

The idea of being shaped by one's environment is common in society and often leads to negative consequences. Many individuals grow up in difficult circumstances and encounter obstacles that feel impossible to overcome. These challenges can include poverty, discrimination, and other forms of injustice. It's easy to fall into the trap of believing that these conditions define who we are and restrict our potential. However, the Bible offers us a different perspective.

In 2 Corinthians 5:17, the apostle Paul writes, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." This verse reveals that when we choose to follow Jesus, we are no longer defined by our past or our circumstances. We are made new in Him, and our identity is found in Him alone. This truth is the cornerstone of the Gospel message, offering hope and transformation to all who believe.

Furthermore, the Bible tells us that our decisions significantly impact our lives. In Proverbs 14:12, we read, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death." This verse reminds us

that our choices have consequences, which can either lead us down a path of destruction or guide us into the abundant life that Jesus offers.

Being defined by our environment also limits our understanding of who God is and what He can do in our lives. The Bible teaches us that God is all-powerful and that He is not constrained by our circumstances. In Jeremiah 32:27, He declares, "Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for me?" This truth reminds us that God is greater than our surroundings, and He can work miracles in our lives if we trust in Him.

It is vital to remember that our identity is not found in our surroundings but in Jesus Christ. When we accept Him as our Lord and Savior, we become children of God, and our identity is found in Him alone. Our past, our struggles, and our environment no longer define us. Instead, we are defined by God's love, grace, and mercy.

In conclusion, we are not defined by the environment we live in but by the decisions we make. Our identity is found in Jesus Christ, and our choices significantly impact our lives. As we focus on the Gospel, we can break free from the limited perspective of being defined by our surroundings and embrace our true identity in Christ. May we always remember that with God, anything is possible, and our future is not constrained by our past or our circumstances.