Esther 2

IDENTITY is a fragile, inner understanding of **WHO** we are, **WHY** we are important, and **WHERE** we fit. It is essential to our humanity.

EXILE

<u>UNDERSTAND</u> that the source and support of your identity (deeper than family, hometown, etc.) is actually GOD.

So, God created man in his own image...
male and female, he created them. (Gen. 1:27)

• For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works... (*Eph. 2:10*).

• You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. (Gal. 3:26)

CLING to God! Circumstances can exile you from familiar settings, but circumstances can never exile you from God's calling and care.

• Do not be terrified, for the Lord your God **goes** with you. He will never leave you or forsake you! (Deut. 31:6)

• Neither life or death, angels or demons, neither the present or the future, or any powers or height or depth or anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God... (Rom. 8:38-39)

Figure out how to **BLOOM** where you are **PLANTED**!

ADOPTION

Adoption is a <u>legal</u> statement and a <u>social</u> announcement... this adoptee is considered the same as a birth child.

This human instrument [adoption] is used by God as an exact description of his <u>will</u> and <u>work</u> in Christ.

• As many as believed in his name he gave the right to become children of God. (Jn. 1:12)

• In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Christ Jesus in accordance with his **pleasure** and **will**. (*Eph. 1:5*)

This is so significant as to be called a **new birth**!

This changes our <u>relationship</u> with God. We become <u>heirs</u> of his life and love.