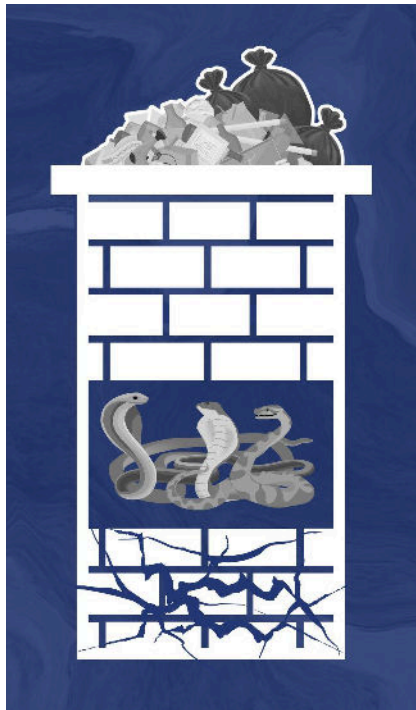




## LESSON ONE: INTRODUCTION TO IDENTITY

### Part One: The Well Story



In session one of this lesson, Dr. Warner sets up an image of identity with a compelling story of the renovation of the Well. Instead of being a place of life-giving water to its community, the Well was the community dump filled with trash, cobra nests, and a broken foundation.

In a similar way, we want the life-giving water of the Holy Spirit to flow freely in our lives, but often we feel stuck.

Like the villagers with the Well, we need to get our spiritual foundation set and deal with the trash and the cobras clogging us up. This will likely take a group of people working together.

The goal of this session is to understand the core issues everyone needs to address when finding growth and healing in their identity.

#### **Reflect:**

- **Consider this saying:** “If you look at the world, you’ll be distressed. If you look within, you’ll be depressed. If you look at God you’ll be at rest.” *(often attributed to Corrie ten Boom)*
  - How does this quote make you feel? Do you tend to struggle more with looking at the world or looking within? What brings you the most peace in your interactions with Jesus Christ?

- **Consider the story of the Well.** On a scale of one to ten, with one being least felt need and ten being highest, rate where you feel your Well needs repair or maintenance in each of the following areas. Mark your answers on the scales below.

<b>Work with a GROUP.</b>									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Clean out the TRASH.</b>									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Deal with the COBRAS.</b>									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Restore/Firm the FOUNDATION.</b>									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

**Ask God:**

*NOTE: The “Ask God” section is designed to facilitate conversation with God in prayer. If you are unfamiliar with conversational or listening prayer, you may want to read through the helpful guide called “How to ‘Ask God.’” This can be found in the Resources and Helpful Info segment near the beginning of the course.*

God, thank You for being with me as I begin this course. Please help me to grow more and more into the abundant life You have called me to in You. What do You want me to know as I take this first step?

## **Practice:**

*NOTE: Keep this worksheet! You will need it for Lesson Ten.*

These Interactive Application worksheets are designed to help you navigate the journey of learning your God-given identity.

**We recommend that you keep them together in a folder or three-ring binder.** This will become a keepsake record of the progress in your journey.

Don't underestimate the importance of this. Without a written, tangible record, we often forget how far we've come. With a record, we can marvel at the goodness of God in our lives. We see this biblically in verses like this one:

*At the LORD's direction, Moses kept a written record of their progress. These are the stages of their march, identified by the different places where they stopped along the way. Numbers 33:2 NLT*

## **Next Steps:**

Congratulations! You are on your way. Be sure to move on to Part Two of Lesson One as you continue to explore your God-given identity!