

**“Lance, you are a good son.”**

**- God's Spirit**

**A declaration of identity is a now truth  
that heals the lies of *yesterday* and  
*today*.**

# Five Identity Lies

1. I am what I have.
2. I am what I do.
3. I am what others say about me or think of me.
4. I am nothing more than my worst moment.
5. I am nothing less than my best moment.

# So what's true?

We are the blessed, chosen, predestined, freely-given, in-the-know friends of God, who are called and empowered to walk as imitators of God, called to do good works that help people, and called to serve as witnesses of God's love to people, powers, and principalities.

*(Ephesians 1:1-14, 2:10, 3:10, 4:1, 5:1)*

**We are the reconciled  
community of God.**

# Hope Reforming Healers.

Personal Encounter.  
City Renewal.

John 4

# John 4 in Four Sections

1. Water
2. Worship
3. Works
4. Witness

**“All too often in our church lifetime, we end up being given many theological and doctrinal factual ornaments, but seldom are we shown the tree upon which to hang them. It’s as if we have been handed dozens of pieces to a puzzle, but have never seen what the finished picture on the top of the puzzle box looks like.”**

**Doug Greenwold**



# The Tree Upon Which We Hang Our Understanding:

1. Author's Intent
2. Cultural History



# The Tree Upon Which We Hang Our Understanding:

1. Author's Intent
2. Cultural History
3. Geographic Relevance

**Mt. Gerizim**

**Mt. Ebal**



# What are our walk-away points?

1. What story is God telling through your life?
2. What relationships and ethnic groups will God use to reveal the power of His love?
3. What opportunities exist here in Connecticut, for the Church of Jesus to make a difference?