

### **Luke 3:5**

"Every valley shall be filled And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough ways smooth;"



#### John 1:42b - 50.

"...Now when Jesus looked at him...Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit... "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, ! saw you." Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you. "I saw you under the fig tree..." YOURSELF

## Jesus sees you, not through you. And when He see you He sees:

- 1. Your Characteristics, character, and core.
- 2. Your past!
- 3. Your future!
- 4. Your true identity!



#### Rick Hanson

"Even though it's scary, everyone longs to be seen, to be known. To have your hopes and fears acknowledged - the ones behind a polite smile or a frown of frustration. To have your true caring seen, as well as your positive intentions and natural goodness...

Most intimately of all, to feel that your innermost being - the one to whom things happen, the one strapped to this roller coaster of a life trying to make sense of it before it ends - has been recognized by someone."



#### **Brene Brown**

"In order for connection to happen we have to allow ourselves to be seen."

#### Genesis 3:10

"He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."



## He sees you and He likes what He sees!

1. Characteristics, character, and core.

#### John 1:47

"Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!"

#### Galatians 3:28

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

#### Romans 3:10-12 (and Ps. 14:1-3, Ps. 53:1-3)

"...as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless: no one does good, not even one."



## 2. He sees your past!

#### John 1:48

"Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

Uh oh! Scary thought or comforting thought!



#### 2 Corinthians 5:17-18a

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God..."

Now thanks to Jesus, when God looks at my past what he sees is me, not my sin, not my failures... that empowers me to move forward into today, knowing that what he sees from yesterday is just me in Christ.

#### 3. He sees your future!

#### John 1:50

"Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these."

Jesus see the potential in you. He sees the dreams, passions in you. They are not lost on Him, he doesn't ignore them and nor is he blind to them.



## 4. He sees your true identity!

## John 1:42

"Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, Peter, A Stone)..."

#### **Identity!**

You can generate a false sense of self from things like your job, your family, your relationships, your race, gender, sexuality, the persona that you try to cast - but deep down, a true sense of self can only be fully satisfied in the human heart when your sense of self comes from Jesus.

He is what your True Self looks like.



#### John 1:42

"Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated is Peter)..."

Cephas is Aramaic for rock, or Peter (verse 42).

Peter (Petros): "a stone" or "a boulder,"

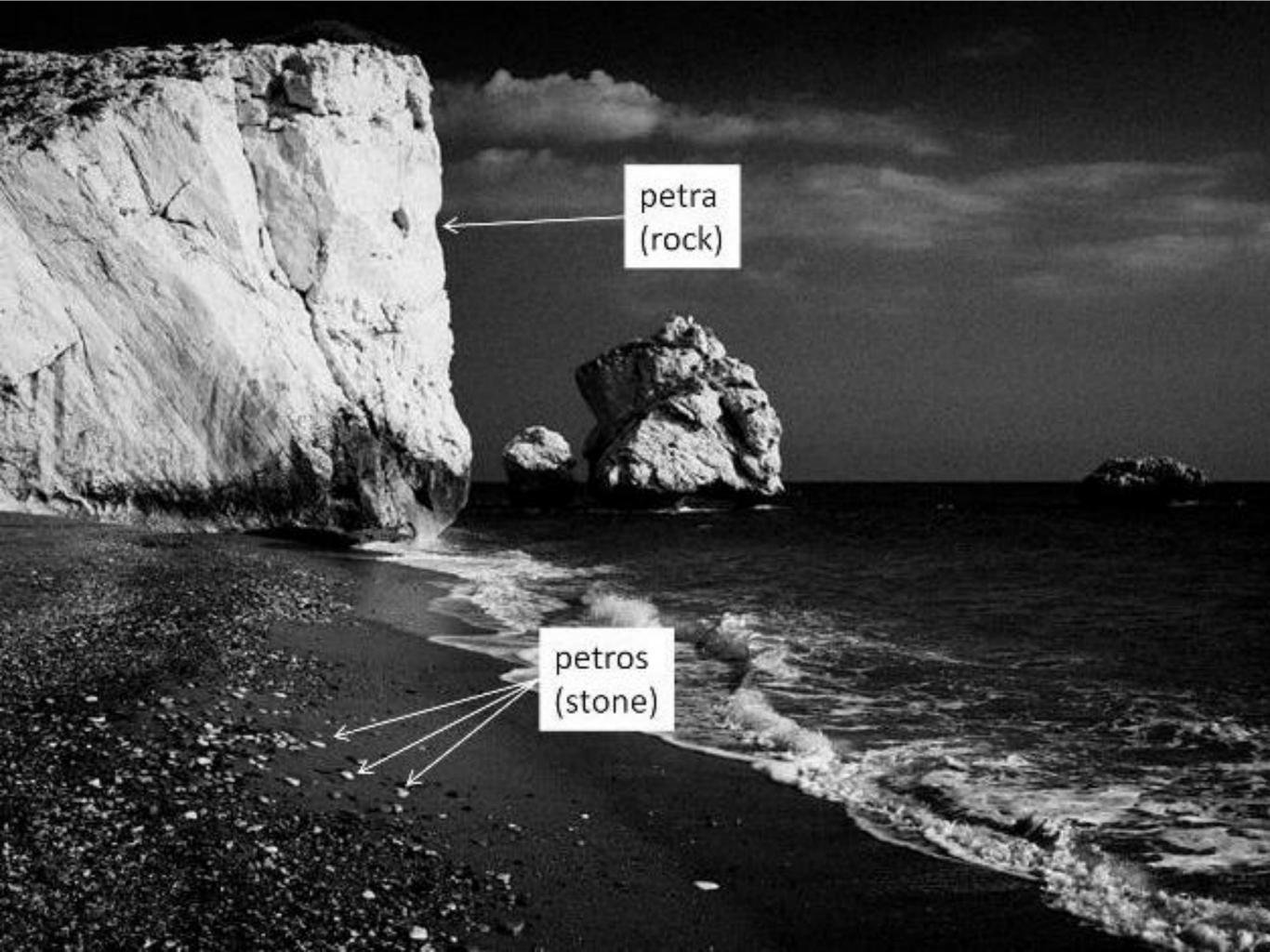
4074 Pétros (a masculine noun) – properly, a stone (pebble), such as a small rock found along a pathway.

#### Matthew 16:18-29

"And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church..."

4073 pétra (a feminine noun) – "a mass of connected rock," which is distinct from 4074 (Pétros) which is "a detached stone or boulder" (A-S). 4073

(pétra) is a "solid or native rock, rising up through the earth" (Souter) – a huge mass of rock (a boulder), such as a projecting cliff.





The revelation of Jesus is the foundation and essence of all of our own identities and the substance of who and what we are. Peter would later come to appreciate that he had become a partaker of the divine nature. We share the same nature as God Himself!

## 2 Peter 1:4(NIV)

"... you may participate in the divine nature..."



Isaiah 51:1 "Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the Lord: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn;"

You want righteousness to show up in your life? You want to be the best version of you? It starts right here: "Look to the rock form which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn..." When you do, realize that you are of the same substance, one with the One you came from.

# Jesus sees you... and He likes what He sees!



