



**Testing
times!**

Who am I?

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Who do you think you are?

... testing reveals identity



Testing is not always negative

Not divine irritation – proves my strength, trust, readiness



The voice before the test

“This is my Son...”
before
“If you are...”



The wilderness question

**Jesus is not asked to deny God,
but to prove himself apart from trust**

If you are ...

The wilderness test
attacks sonship:

- provision
- protection
- power

Garden vs wilderness



Adam and Eve had
abundance ...

Jesus had hunger ...

... both faced an identity test





Did God really say...?

**The first test questions
God's goodness
and therefore,
human identity**

Two lost sons

Both forget they are sons

Younger outside the home

Older inside it





The rebel & the servant

Older: "I've slaved for you"

Younger: "make me a servant"

Both lose sonship



The Father restores identity

The father does not merely forgive ... he re-identifies: **“this son of mine”**





**Scripture
not stricture**

“It is written” is not restriction ...
... but **freedom rooted in trust**

**Which voice
names you?**



The devil says:
“If you are...”

**The Father says;
“You are...”**



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**Faithfulness is
remembered
identity**

Faithfulness is not self-
invention ...
... but **received belonging**

**Remember
who you are**

Live from belovedness

not fear

not proving

not rebellion

not resentment

