

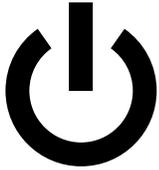


**Speaker:** Lecrae

**Title:** Fixed on Jesus

**Summary:** God defines us, not our past or other people.

**Key Verses:** Hebrews 4:14–16; 12:1–3; Luke 22:39–46



**Power Up:** *Take a moment to prepare*

In his talk, Lecrae references his most popular song, “I’ll Find You,” which he crafted during a time of trial. Play his video as an introduction to the talk.



**Replay:** *Take some time to watch*

Note the key themes of Lecrae’s talk: **1)** Jesus shows us how to live as a joyful sacrifice in suffering/shame; **2)** costly sacrifices precede joy; **3)** past pain and the opinion of others do not define us; **4)** our identity is in Jesus.



**Comment:** *Take some time to talk*

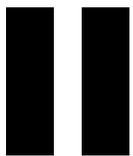
**Read Hebrews 12:1–3.** What is the “joy” before Jesus? What pain and shame did Jesus suffer before embracing this joy? Be specific.

**How did abuse and his father’s absence affect Lecrae’s life? How honest are you about your past scars? How does Jesus meet us in pain?** See [Heb. 4:14-16](#). What triumphs have you seen in trials?

Lecrae says, “If you live for acceptance, you die of rejection.” **Whose acceptance do you seek? How do social media feed this reality?**

**Who is your cloud of witnesses, shouting “You can do it” as you run for Jesus? How does their encouragement/example fuel your faith?**

**How do you fix your eyes on Jesus?** Be specific.



**Pause:** *Take a moment to pray*

Thank God for being your loving Father. Thank Him that He’s transformational not transactional in his interactions with you. Ask Him to keep past hurts from stealing your hope. Ask Him for help to fix your eyes on Jesus.



**Take Action:** *Make it personal*

It’s easy to misplace our identity. Take a few minutes to write out areas from your life that have become more important in describing you than your God-given identity. Then read Ephesians 1-2. Take note of what God says of you. Write those identity marks out and begin to put them to memory.

## **Bonus Features:** Additional Notes and Quotes from Lecrae

### On Following Jesus

“There is actually joy on the other side of your sacrifice... Jesus is our hope. And to acknowledge that is going to cost us... Following Jesus is costly.”

“Fourteen [years old] changes the world. Mary was fourteen.”

“[Did] a group of teenagers changed the world? I think so... You are who God says you are. And you can change the world.”

“If you never know trial, you’ll never know triumph.”

### On Our God-given Identity

“We are unique. We are designed with a glorious purpose. The purpose in Jesus Christ is not something we want to shy away from but fully embrace, to shine the light of Jesus wherever we go.”

We have eternal worth and value through Christ Jesus. You can be spit on, stepped on, people can talk about you... That does not define you.”

“If you woke up this morning and you were loved by God, any ‘Like’ is just a bonus.”

“I am a mess, but God can make a masterpiece out of this mess.”

“God forged a new me. God used all that pain to birth something great.”

“You are who God says you are. Jesus is where our identity is formed. There is grace today for yesterday’s mistakes.”

### On Past Hurt and Misplaced Identity

“On the outside I looked good [e.g., successful]. But on the inside, I was headed for disaster... On the outside things looked good. On the inside I was bleeding internally.”

“I needed to learn the reason for the hope in me, not so I could tell others about it (not yet), but so I could tell myself how to stand firm in Jesus.”

“If you live for acceptance, you die of rejection.”

“God was not there to be transactional. God is relational. He wants to walk with us through the pain, through the struggles, through the trials.”