



No portion of this article may be reproduced without
express written permission of Style Publishing Group, LLC.
©2007 • All rights reserved.



Style Publishing Group
P.O. Box 1676
Frisco, Texas 75034
Phone: 972.335.1181
Toll Free: 877.781.7067
Fax: 214.722.2313
E-mail: info@friscostyle.com
Web: www.friscostyle.com

Ad Sales: (972) 335-1306



Photo Credit: Jasin Boland Copyright: © 2007 Universal Studios. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

The “Born” Ultimatum

By Randy Creech

“YOU LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY to what I’m about to tell you...I remember...I remember everything.” Jason Bourne is on the run. For three years he’s been running and frantically attempting to go back to the beginning to find out who he was...or is...or whatever. Desperately determined to recover the identity he had before submitting himself and his skills to the service of “the agency.” The trail of bodies and chaos are tangible proof that with Bourne, nothing else matters. Great movie. Not so great in real time or real life but for some, this is how life is lived.

Definitely the case for me at one point, especially in high school. Ok, it’s been awhile, but I will never forget the three+ years of running while at the same time desperately attempting to recover my lost identity and to answer the question, “Who the heck am I?” Time, brainwashing and some stupid choices of my own made that question almost impossible to confront. Never mind that I was the one

responsible for submitting myself and my identity to “the agency” so that they could make me into their own image. The agency consisted of my “friends” or anyone that wanted me to be someone other than who I really was.

Now, “I remember, I remember everything.” It’s not so easy when you are in the middle of the chase to remember. High school is like that. Things speed up, pressure is on, friends and choices are chasing after you. It is possible to forget who God made you to be. Check you’re My Space or Facebook. Is that really you? For real? Or, like Jason Bourne, formerly “David Webb,” the passport picture looks like you but beyond that it is all a mystery. You are a mystery, even to yourself at times. There are four clues that will lead us out of the mystery and into the truth of who we were created to be. Let’s call it the “Born Ultimatum.”

CLUE #1

God made it clear that we were “born”



with an awareness of Himself imprinted in the deepest part of our hearts. He desires to give us an identity that no one can alter or erase. That identity was set when He created us and it is emphasized by His intimate, personal pursuit of us. A king and songwriter best described this when he wrote, “You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!” Psalm 139:13-14

CLUE #2

The identity that was originally given to us by God has been robbed and we have been on the run. We are exiled to a foreign place and isolated from the

One who knows us best and loves us most. The Bible uses the term “sin” to best describe the idea of “missing the mark” or “falling short” of God’s perfect intentions for us. No effort on our part or campaign of good deeds can restore this identity or reconnect our broken relationship with Him. The impact of our missing the mark was described well by Isaiah who said, “But the trouble is that your sin has cut you off from God.” Isaiah 59:2

CLUE #3

Jesus Christ entered into a “hostile country” on a rescue mission to bring us back to our intended identity and to restore our relationship with Himself. He was willing to do whatever it took for us to not be “cut off” from God. It was the ultimate sacrifice on His part and an insanely free offer for us. No strings attached, no hidden agenda, no double agent stuff, just an honest offer of total forgiveness and a very long-term relationship with the Father. Simply put by a passionate follower from long ago, “God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” Romans 5:8

CLUE #4

This is where the story takes a turn toward clarity and away from mystery. We now have the freedom or maybe even more accurately, the “ultimatum” to respond to this invitation to be rescued and restored to our intended identity and

relationship. John spoke directly to us when He said, “He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” John 1:12 Imagine that. Jesus came to rescue and liberate captives who were spiritual P.O.W.s and when He showed up at the gates some of them responded by saying,

“Uhhhhh... thanks, but we’ve got it under control.” Others allowed Him to swing open the gates of their heart and to give Him permission to bring freedom to the deepest part of who they were created to be. How ‘bout you?

Born to run or born to enter into



Photo Credit: Jasin Boland Copyright: © 2007 Universal Studios. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

the ultimate place for which you were created? Let’s just call it the “Born Ultimatum!”

Randy Creech is a special contributor with Student Venture Frisco. He may be contacted at: rcreech@studentventure.com