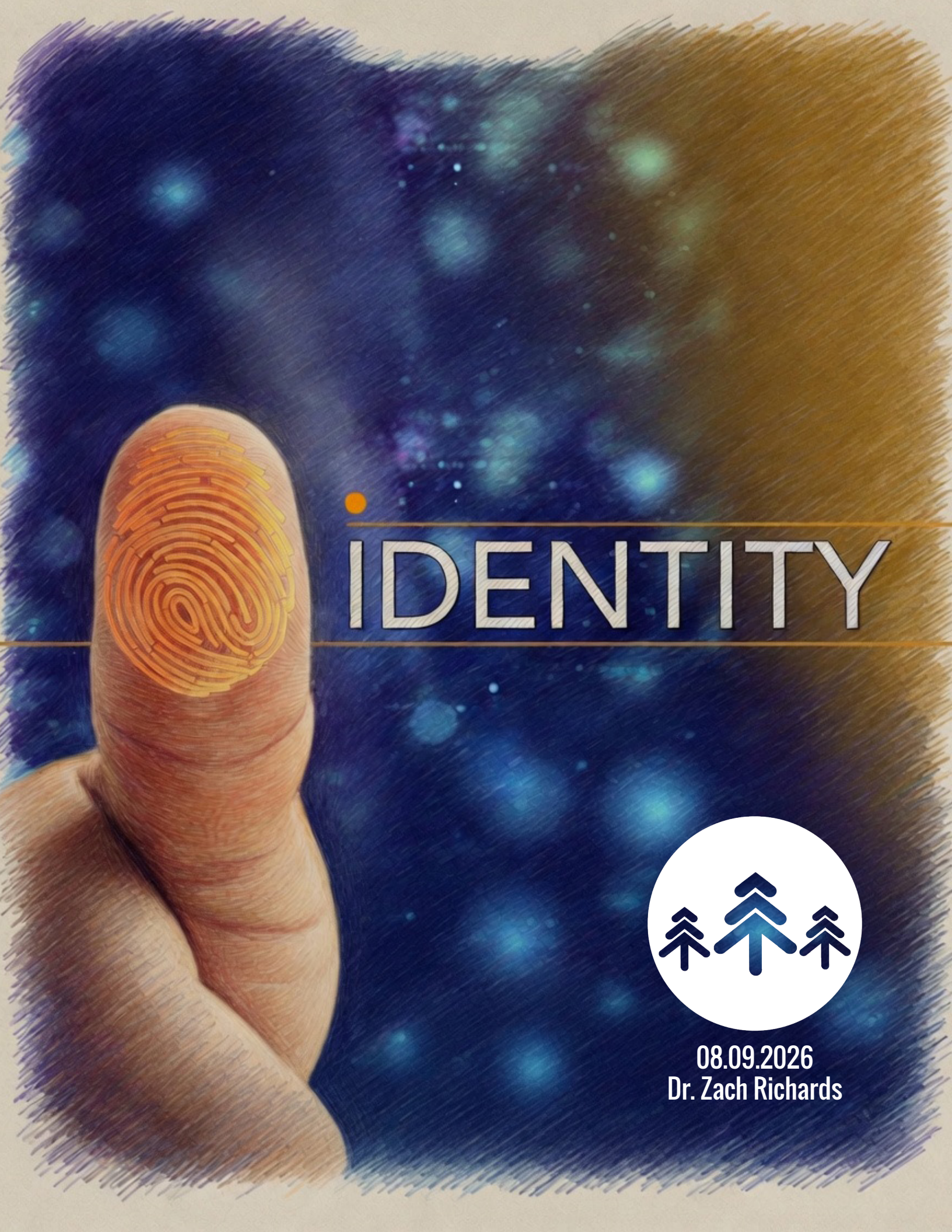


The background of the entire image is a textured, painterly depiction of a cosmic scene. It features a dark blue and purple nebula with numerous bright, out-of-focus stars and galaxies in shades of blue, green, and yellow. On the left side, a human hand is shown from the wrist up, with the index finger extended. The fingerprint on the tip of the finger is highlighted with a golden-yellow, concentric circular pattern. A thin, horizontal orange line runs across the middle of the image, passing behind the word 'IDENTITY'.

# IDENTITY



08.09.2026  
Dr. Zach Richards

# Is It Worth It All?

2 Corinthians 4:7-18

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## Sermon in a Sentence

All that we suffer here in this life is not even worth comparing to the glory that awaits those who believe.

## Question

Is the difficulty we face as Christians worth it?

### I. God's power is manifested.

- A. Paul compared the power of the gospel within us to a treasure in a clay jar.
- B. All of our life is meant to show the power of the gospel.
  - 1. *God's power is shown through our deliverance from suffering.*
    - (1) *Psalm 34:7- The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.*
    - (2) *Job 36:15- He delivers the afflicted by their affliction and opens their ear by adversity.*
  - 2. *God's power is shown through our daily dying.*
    - *Luke 9:23- And He said to all, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.*
- C. Living for Christ is easy when life is easy, but it is when life is hard, when no one is expecting it, that we have the greatest opportunity to reflect Christ.

### II. Disciples are multiplying.

- A. Paul told the Corinthians why he preached.
  - 1. He was compelled for the sake of the gospel.
  - 2. He was compelled for the sake of the perishing.
  - 3. He was compelled for the sake of God's praise.
- B. We should be compelled to suffer whatever hardship for the gospel.
  - 1. It is worth it when disciples are made.
  - 2. It is worth it when God is glorified.

### III. Our suffering is minuscule.

- A. Paul believed that the suffering he faced could not compare with the glory that awaited him.
- B. We should be bold in living and declaring the gospel.
  - 1. *We are being transformed.*
  - 2. *Our suffering is insignificant compared to what lies ahead.*
  - 3. *What we are tempted with in this world cannot compare to what we have in eternity.*
    - *1 Corinthians 2:9- But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"*
- C. We cannot allow fear to stand in the way of the gospel.
  - **"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." Jim Elliot**