

Tag You're It

Anchor Scriptures: Ephesians 1:20-22, Ephesians 2:6-7

20 He exercised this power in Christ by raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens — 21 far above every ruler and authority, power and dominion, and every title given, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And he subjected everything under his feet and appointed him as head over everything for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way. -- Ephesians 1:20-23 (CSB)

6 He also raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace through his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. -- Ephesians 2:6-7 (CSB)

Hook:

- Childhood game of hide and seek
- Purpose of game was to enjoy the process
- Tagging someone signified that they had been touched, empowered, or specifically anointed to carry out the next task
- When tagged, the saying was “tag you’re it”
- Dilemma is, how do you know who to tag if you don’t even know the purpose or who you’re looking for
- Following Christ is the same concept
- How do we know what we’ve been empowered to do and empower others if we don’t know the purpose of it all?

Background:

- Book of Ephesians is an epistle written by Paul
- Epistle is just a lengthy letter written to either admonish, encourage, or correct
- Addressed to the church of Ephesus
- Fairly young church that thrived in the face of paganism
- The culture in which church of Ephesus was set was in a pagan regime
- Paul begins in Chapter 1 with three themes
 - A. Redemption
 - B. Inheritance
 - C. Sealant through the Holy Spirit
- Paul moved into the prayer of enlightenment so the believers eyes of their heart may be enlightened
- Dare to say, many believers are struggling with
 - 1) Living in truth
 - 2) Living out the truthBecause of lack of understanding
- This is why Paul puts emphasis on Ephesians 1:15-19
 - 15 This is why, since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, 16 I never stop giving thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. 17 I pray*

that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, would give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened so that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what is the wealth of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the mighty working of his strength. -- Ephesians 1:15-19 (CSB)

- Then he moves to the first part of our core scripture and notes that Jesus is in heaven, seated, at the right hand of the Father
- Chapter 2, Paul then switches back over to the believer for a common theme 1) death to life (resurrection)
- We are officially to our second core scripture where Jesus says “tag, you’re it.”
- Ephesian 2: 6-7
6 He also raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace through his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. -- Ephesians 2:6-7 (CSB)

Spiritual Toolbox

- Essential components to add to your spiritual toolbox

1. Enlightenment

- *6 He also raised us up with him (A clause)*
- In order to be raised up, you have to acknowledge there was a point where you were down
- “Down” does not signify out, it signifies the opportunity for redemption
- Many well known people in the Bible had moments of being down, but God never cast them out
- God uses imperfect people
- There is a level of power that comes with this knowledge
- This is why Paul says I pray the eyes of your heart be enlightened
- Dare to say there are believers who are blindly walking
- The danger is, you never know what you will run into
- Ephesians 2:1-5

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins

2 in which you previously walked according to the ways of this world, according to the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit now working in the disobedient. 3 We too all previously lived among them in our fleshly desires, carrying out the inclinations of our flesh and thoughts, and we were by nature children under wrath as the others were also. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us, 5 made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace! -- Ephesians 2:1-5 (CSB)

- **Where you may be is not the place where you are designed to stay**
- We were born from incorruptible seed
- Paul is a prime example of favor, faith, and redemption
- Ephesians 3:8-11

8 *This grace was given to me — the least of all the saints — to proclaim to the Gentiles the incalculable riches of Christ, 9 and to shed light for all about the administration of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things. 10 This is so that God’s multi-faceted wisdom may now be made known through the church to the rulers and authorities in the heavens. 11 This is according to his eternal purpose accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. 12 In him we have boldness and confident access through faith in him. -- Ephesians 3:8-12 (CSB)*

- The enlightenment is the knowledge we have of Christ
- The enlightenment is the knowledge of the power we have in Christ
- We have been given access and permission through Christ
- (Story about Sonya- Freshman Academy)

2. Duality

- *6 seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus (B clause)*
- The role of the believer is to live simultaneously in two places
- Your physical man resides on earth while your inner man and the essence of who you are resides in heaven (soul)
- Major question: Are you known in both places?
- Are you known on earth and in heaven?
- Are you known in heaven and in hell? *Goes against man's theology*
- Acts 19:13-17

13 Now some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists also attempted to pronounce the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “I command you by the Jesus that Paul preaches!” 14 Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish high priest, were doing this. 15 The evil spirit answered them, “I know Jesus, and I recognize Paul — but who are you?” 16 Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them, overpowered them all, and prevailed against them, so that they ran out of that house naked and wounded. 17 When this became known to everyone who lived in Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks, they became afraid, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high esteem. -- Acts 19:13-17 (CSB)

- God has entrusted us with the heart of a priest
- 1 Peter 2:9

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.
- The priest lived in a place of duality
- They were always among God and the people
- The heart posture of a priest is a heart of service
- Before you ask God for anything, ask Him what is on His heart
- The duality requires holiness

- Some saints are living in duality but in the wrong ways-this will cost you if repentance is not in the picture
- The believer must be secure to operate in a space of duality (identity/confidence)
- How are you using your influence in the duality?
- How are you impacting in the duality?
- How are you operating in the duality?
- The Lord's prayer "let your kingdom come and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"
- That is the KEY to living in the duality
- It is already done, your faith unlocks what is in the heavenly places to be released on earth through the works of the Christ and the works He empowered you to do
- John 14:12-13
12 "Truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do. And he will do even greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. -- John 14:12-14 (CSB)
- The principle of duality is a principle to live by-The Lord's prayer
 "Our Father which art in heaven hallowed be thy name thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven
- As it is! Meaning it is established and tag you're it!

3. Christ

- 7 so that in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace through his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.
- God did all this to bring it back to Christ
- It will always point back to Jesus
- God is multi faceted with depth to His character
- God loves to flash what is His and who is His!
- God shows His grace through His kindness in Christ
- The kindness He displayed is the ultimate version of duality
- Jesus operated in both roles as fully man and fully God
- Jesus sought after God every morning but lived among the people
- The duality requires,
 - a. Balance (come back to reality, but also be in the spirit with prayer life and communion)
 - b. Presence (be attentive and sensitive to the spirit and the people)
 - c. The posture of a priest
- The world thought God's way of showing kindness was cruel
- God's kindness through Jesus Christ saved the world
- Ephesians 2:13
13 But now in Christ Jesus, you who were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. -- Ephesians 2:12-13 (CSB)
- The kindness is seen through the blood

- This work we do is because of the blood

Closure

- It is our turn as believers to step into the fullness of the duality
- Tag, you're it
- You are operating in a place of authority to expand the Kingdom on earth and live in a place of priesthood