



**Pastor Miles McPherson / December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017**

**Icebreaker:**

This past Sunday Pastor Miles shared that the main point to the sermon, and the series, was to “Get your mind daydreaming about the things of God.” Take some time daydreaming by answering these questions (feel free to add more).

- If you could have coffee with Jesus what would you talk about?
- What are some things you’re hoping will not be in Heaven or on the New Earth (I.E. traffic, racism, cats, slow internet, etc.)?
- Read Revelation 7:9, imagine looking upon that site for the first time, what would you be thinking?

**Encouragement:**

The focus of the message was dedicated to understanding who we are within the resurrected Christ. As Pastor Miles shared, many people make the mistake of thinking that God is far from them, when they are sitting right next to Him the whole time. Being in Christ, you are positioned by being in favor with the Father. He sees you through the filter of His Son, Jesus (Colossians 3:3). You have direct access to the throne of God (Hebrews 4:16). You were made with purpose (John 15:16).

**Question:**

We have the identity of being resurrected in Christ, only by God’s grace, how should it effect how you love your spouse? Kids? Co-workers? Brothers and sisters in the faith? Unbelievers? Yourself?

“God sees us as we are, loves us as we are, and accepts us as we are. But by His grace, He does not leave us as we are.” ~Tim Keller

**Scripture:**

Read the Following Verses and discuss what Scripture is declaring about being *in Christ*. Then Put it in your own words.

*(Example: Romans 8:1 says there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. I would rephrase it, by being in Christ I am no longer found guilty by God but innocent!)*

- Romans 15:17; 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 3:26-28, Ephesians 2:10, Philippians 3:14-15, 4:6-7, 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:18, 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 1:12-14, 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 1:6-9, 2:1, 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:10.

## **Prayer:**

Whether you have heard the amazing truth that our identities are transformed through Christ for the first time or hundredth, ask the Lord to put what's in your head into your heart.

- Take time to identify the lies the enemy has attacked you with and pray that the Spirit would remind you who you are in Christ.
- Pray that the Lord would reveal and take away any obstacles that are keeping you from being in a posture of leaning on the Father.
- Pray for the toys for joy event
  - The volunteers, leaders, venues
  - The kids, their parents, loved ones
  - The broken, the hurting, the hopeless, the downtrodden
  - For God to be glorified in and through everything taking place this Saturday.

## **Next Steps:**

This year Toys for Joy will be held in four locations and it will take over 4,000 volunteers to serve guests at all our event sites. Your experience will bless you as well as the lives of children and families.

**To Give** this year - <http://toys-for-joy.org/volunteer>

**To Volunteer** this year - <http://toys-for-joy.org/give>

**To partner or sponsor** - <http://toys-for-joy.org/partner-sponsor>