

Series: You Asked for It! (10/9/16)

Title: The Greatest Miracle I have Witnessed

Text: John 1:12-13

Explain, “You Asked For It!”

It’s OK to have Questions:

Questions are not sinful if they are honest questions.

(1 Kings 10:1,3,6)

Sinful Questions are just posed to cast doubt.

(Matt 22:15-18)

“Pastor Mix, What is the greater Miracle you have ever witnessed?”

(John 1:12-13) The greatest Miracle I have ever experienced is my salvation.

I had a problem I could not fix: (Rom 3:23)(Rom 6:23)

God Already made Provision for Me: (Rom 5:8)

God already Chose all Humanity to be saved: (2 Pet 3:9)

I had to choose to Believe: (John 1:12)

Belief Only: (Acts 16:30-31, Jn 5:24, Jn 3:15-18)

At the point of Belief the New Birth Happens: (1 Jn 5:1)

(Jn 3:3,5,7,14-16)

(John 1:13) ***Born...not of Blood*** - Of human lineage.

Illus: God has no grandchildren.

Nor of the will of the flesh - Through Works, or Reformation

Nor of the will of man-Through a Parent, Priest, Pope, Pastor

... but of God! It is God that does the Birthing!

(John 6:63)(Eph 2:1,10)

There are 2 sides to this!

Our Part and God’s Part (John 1:12-13)

Our Part: *“But as many as received Him...*

God’s Part: *“to them gave he the power to become the sons of God.*

Our Part: *“even to the, that believe on His name”*

God’s Part: *“Which were born”*

Our Part: *“Not of Blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man”*

God’s Part: *“but of God”*

Do you see the Family Picture! (1 Jn 3:1-2)(Rom 8:15-16)

Illus: are you part of the Family or just a Guest?

I always thought it dumb when boyfriends/girlfriends are included in the yearly family pictures.

Are you a part of the family?

When did you become part of the Family of God?

Jn 3:36 The Dipstick, the Liptnus Test

When is Your Spiritual Birthday?

I was born Physically Feb 1st, 1967

I was Born again, Oct 9th, 1990

Today is my Spiritual Birthday!

On 2/1/67 I was born of Robert & Pauline Mix

On 10/9/90 I was born of God.

On 2/1/67 I was born into the family of Robert & Pauline Mix

On 10/9/90 I was born into the Family of God.

On 2/1/67 I was made an heir of Robert & Pauline Mix

On 10/9/90 I was made an Heir of God.

Only 1 Birthday will not do, you must have 2!

On 2/1/67 I inherited my Father's Name & Nature.

I would Identify myself and Robert's boy.

As I grew older, I would find my identity in my Career.

I am John, I play Basketball for Putnam Co. HS.

I am John, I am a Field Engineer for ATS

I am John, I am the branch manager of Whitman Hart.

I am John, I am the Regional Sales Rep for Advanced Tissue.

Many people allow their career to set their Identity.

But is that who they Really Are?

Basketball Player, Field Engineer, Sales Manager.

These are things I did, but that is NOT Who I AM.

Many people identify themselves as a fan of something.

Nats Fan, Skins Fans, Cowboys Fan.

But is that who they Really Are?

On 10/9/90 I inherited my Heavenly Fathers Name & Nature.

I am a New Creature in Christ: (2 Cor 5:17)

(1 Cor 15:22) "In Adam" vs. "In Christ" 160 references

Not a question of Location, Association, but UNITED With!

"In Adam, all die..."

As Represented by Adam, I am separated from Christ.

All my Righteousnesses are Filthy rags.

I have gone astray, I have turned away from God.

"In Christ shall all be made alive"

As Represented by Christ, I am now Alive.

All my sin is forgiven, I am seen as Holy. (Rom 5:18-19)

Who I am "IN" Christ is far more wonderful and Elaborate.

Heir of God: (Gal 4:6-7)

Fellow Heirs with Christ! (Rom 8:16-17)

Heir of Salvation: (Heb 1:14)

Heir of Eternal Life: (Titus 3:7)

New Body: (Phil 3:20-21)

Heir of a New Nature: (2 Pet 1:4)

Heir of Justification by Faith: (Gal 3:29)

Just - If - I'd - Never Sinned

Christianity is NOT something I DO.

Child of GOD is WHAT I AM.

Christianity is NOT something I PUT ON.

Christian is WHO I AM.

Christ is NOT someone I ASSOCIATE with.

Christ is WHO I BELONG TOO!

How We Identify ourselves tells others our priorities.

HS Football: When we were in Texas, there was so much emphasis was put on the High School football program, it was as if their were a TEAM that had a SCHOOL, instead of a SCHOOL that had a TEAM.

Illus: The Tail Wags the DOG!

Churches: 60 in Church, 600 in the Christian School.

Church w/a School, vs School w/a Church.

We are not an AWANA program with a CHURCH.

Our existence is not Prioritized by our Programs.

I am Not a Football Fan who goes to Church.

I am a Christian who likes seeing the Bears Win.

My Sports teams don't run my life.

My Behaviors No Longer Define who I am.

I no longer have my Identity in my career.

I realized that I am not a Field Engineer who goes to Church.

I came to realize that I am a Christian, who God provides a living for as a field engineer.

I am not a field engineer that teaches Sunday School.

I am a Servant of God, who God provides for my family as a Field Engineer.

I am a Christian first, before all other labels.

I AM NOT a Husband who is a Christian

I am a Christian who is a Husband.

Thus...as a Christian, I am commanded to love my wife selflessly.

I AM NOT a Husband First.

Being a husband is not enough motivation to love my wife.

I AM NOT a Father who is a Christian

I AM a Christian who is a Father.

Thus, as a Christian, I am commanded to train my children.

I AM NOT a Father First.

Being a Father is not enough motivation to train my Kids.

My Identity as a person is not defined by my behavior.

I no longer identify myself with my sin.

(John 8:31-32) *Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

"Hello, I am John the Alcoholic"

My higher power is Jesus Christ.

"Hello, I am John the Liar."

My sin is wrong, because God said so, but that is not who I am. ***I AM, a child of God!***

My persistent habits, are needed to be brought under control.

But my habits do not define my identity.

"Hello, I am John the Nail biter."