

# *Prayer- How we access our inner Super Child and Power*

Jesus Came to give life, but had  
to live as Clark Kent at times



***Life Church Service  
Sunday, December 20, 2015***



# Jesus' Priestly Prayer teaches us about Communing

## John 17: 13- 26 NASB

•<sup>13</sup> But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves. <sup>14</sup> I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>15</sup> I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them [d]from [e]the evil *one*. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.

•<sup>20</sup> “I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one; even as You, Father, *are* in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may [f]believe that You sent Me.

•<sup>22</sup> The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; <sup>23</sup> I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected [g]in unity, so that the world may [h]know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me. <sup>24</sup> Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

•<sup>25</sup> “O righteous Father, [i]although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me; <sup>26</sup> and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

# Why Did God Choose Prayer?

- God chose prayer as a means for us to commune with him. What is Communing? Relating in a positive and productive way. Ps. 55 is David's prayer around communing going wrong- a friend becoming an enemy.
- Jesus communed with God. Unity in Love shows that we are Christians, it leads to Joy and other fruit. Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Words in English are powerful.
- Words Create our Story. (Feature the story). Words make us smart and image bearers.
- Prayer is a TIME commitment of Love.

# Getting Started- What is ?

## Prayer

- What is prayer?
  - Verbal Communication with God. A direct line to the creator of the universe. We are his image bearers, so this communication is primarily verbal, but it is also non verbal...
  - Connection to the Power of God. Power outages are rarely caused by the source!
  - Asking for things according to God's agenda not our own. Father not my will but thine...



# What Prayer is NOT

- Complicated. Even though we are talking with the creator of the universe, he knows what we need. Especially when it is public and could influence how others see prayer.
- Asking for things with impure motives. (James 4)
- Just Agreeing together. Matt 18 is often talked about with prayer- where 2 or 3 are gathered... That is a legal term, letting things be confirmed with 2 or 3 witnesses to bring unity to the body (one way or another).

# **Prayer helps us to see ourselves as God does, accessing our Super powers**

What are your “high” places?

Where has God called you to climb?



# Prayer- Helps you to find your Purpose

Is it just to win races? Or is it to humbly care for other as part of ushering in His kingdom, as part of God's Family?

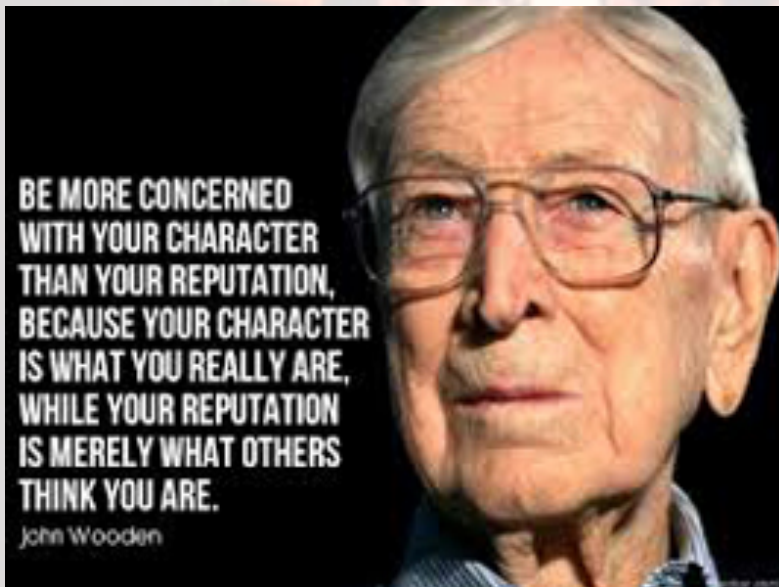
- Once Dash knew who he was, and that his purpose was to bless the world, winning races was less of an issue for him.



# God has battles for us to fight, is he your General/ Coach?

God sent His son to recruit players  
for his team.

- Receiving Jesus as your savior is an important step to become what you were designed to become!
- God made you and has powers and gifts for you to share to help others.
- God allows challenges to test your heart. We need to be more concerned about character than reputation!



# How do you stay connected to your Coach?

- (1) Communication is Key... The sojourner space rover ( named after Sojourner Truth), went to Mars, and because of the time delay had to do some things autonomously- Independently.
- God does not have time delays, but he does give us space to learn independently. How to control our powers, how to use them for good, how to grow in character.
- There are new characters and teams these days that take bad guys and use them to do good things.
- In God's sight we are all bad, but we can do good for him if we stay connected. Paul did that, and made errors, so did David.

# Christmas..Paradise Plays



- Winter Solstice...
- Back in the 14th Century, churches presented Miracle Plays—religious plays used to educate the illiterate public. Traditionally on December 24, the church presented The Paradise Play, the story of Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden. And in place of an apple tree—as they weren't available in winter—they fastened apples to the branches of a pine tree. Using a pine to represent the Tree of Good and Evil became a common practice among churches and they began incorporating the tree into their Christmas displays each year. But it didn't stop there. Following the church's example, people began assembling pine trees in their homes and decorating them with red apples. Source: <https://suite.io/nicole-skutelnik/12f72k3>
- Catholic Liturgy uses Violet, and Rose as the official colors ( some have uses Blue as well) , but the wreath represents eternal life, the red berries represent blood, as well as that connection to Adam and the early church plays.



**This Christmas, let's not be in civil war, but let us remember What is Really important**

- As we are a school, we have to focus on Academic work to reach our high places.
- As Super heroes for God we have to learn how to walk in courage.

# Getting to Work

We are fearfully and wonderfully made...

We have super powers... We can make  
Grandparents Cry...

We can inspire people on the Radio

We can get perfect scores on Math Tests, and  
vocabulary tests.

We can even use our weaknesses to really  
minister to others...

# Your turn

- What great work do you think God for you to do?
- What are your High Places?
- If you were born with Superman powers how would you use them?
- When would you choose not to use them?
- Jesus was born as a baby... What did he have to the hard way?



# Hearing your observations

- I want to hear from you guys...
- How would things be different if Jesus was born today?
- What things would be different?
- What would be the same?



# Away we go!



How we see ourselves impacts  
how high we can climb.

If we are negative we may stay  
on the ground.

If we see other Goats climb,  
like Jesus, then we can say,  
why not me?

Peter did that with walking on  
Water, but he took his eyes off  
of His Hero!



## **How we see ourselves makes all the difference**

WHAT MATTERS MOST  
IS HOW YOU SEE YOURSELF.



Superman, Like Jesus was the only Superhero whose “costume” was being normal. He was Meek- meaning his true nature was that of being very Strong. He chose to be meek for those around him.

# Confidence in the Coach

- **Jesus grew in Confidence, and in knowing that no matter what the Circumstance, God has his back**

**Extreme Confidence**

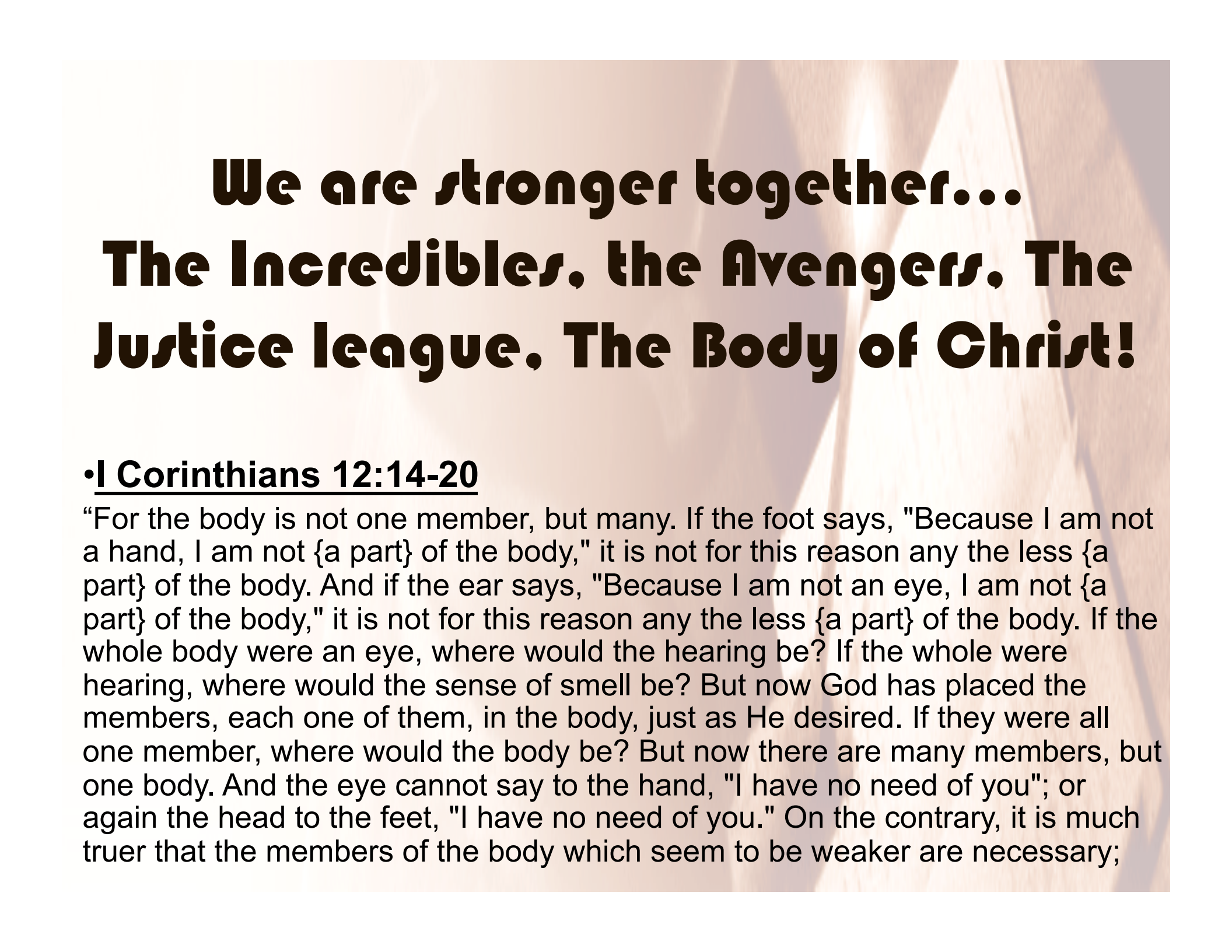
# Being Born Strong can make us Lazy



We have choices to make... To hone our skills, understand the Playbook- the Bible, and listen to our coach to really get stronger.

The X Men had the danger room, God gives us walls to climb, challenges to face water to walk on, and opportunities to learn from our mistakes.

This is the adventure He has set before us. Let us count it all joy when we go through those trials because they make us stronger, so we can face our Zoom's and win!



# **We are stronger together...**

## **The Incredibles, the Avengers, The Justice league, The Body of Christ!**

### **1 Corinthians 12:14-20**

“For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot says, “Because I am not a hand, I am not {a part} of the body,” it is not for this reason any the less {a part} of the body. And if the ear says, “Because I am not an eye, I am not {a part} of the body,” it is not for this reason any the less {a part} of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. If they were all one member, where would the body be? But now there are many members, but one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; or again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary;

# Iron Sharpening Iron:

**We are not in this alone... We can do much good or much harm, but if we take the lead of our Captain Jesus, and listen to God as our Coach, We can do great things for God's team!**

We are a light to the World,

This Christmas, We celebrate the first real superhero who showed us how to Love, Serve, Save those in distress as part of a team.

