**POSITION, POTENTIAL, PURPOSE (4)** 2019-10-13

**ROMANS 8:29(NLTSE)** For God knew His people in advance, and ***He chose them to become like his Son***, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters

* *Recap:* for the last few weeks, we’ve been discussing our position and how we see ourselves in relation to God. How we see ourselves in the context of what’s happening in our country and whether or not our minds or attitudes are positioned for growth. We discussed that being “positioned” for growth means are hearts are aligned with wanting to grow and we need undivided hearts, totally focussed on God’s purposes. We spoke about having a clear and definite purpose, anytime we fellowship together. That our gatherings should be causing us to grow and mature as Christians.

* This week, we’ll discuss our potential. God has chosen us to ***become like*** Jesus. God’s powerful word, has declared who and what we’re meant to be:

**EPHESIANS 4:11-13(NLTSE)** “Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do His work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, ***measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ***”

* It’s one thing to encouraged by the faith that others have in you.

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:11(NLTSE)** So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

* It’s another thing to have faith in yourself because of who you are in Christ, being positioned with Him in heavenly places

**PHILIPPIANS 4:13(NLTSE)** For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength

* It’s altogether different when we realise the faith that God has in us:

**JOHN 14:12(NTSE)** “I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father

**JOHN 20:21(NLTSE)** Again he said, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you

* As a child, I grew up building model airplanes. On the outside of the box, was a picture of the full potential, of what all the little pieces inside, could become, when fully built and painted.
* Our lives are like that. God has the completed picture in His mind of who we are in Christ
* Jesus came from greatness, humbled Himself and God exalted Him.
* We come from greatness (in God’s mind), we must humble ourselves and God will exalt us to our full potential

**CARE GROUP DISCUSSION**

1. What do you understand by the term “hidden potential”
2. What does the fact, that God has chosen us to become like Jesus, say about His expectations of us?
3. Why do you think God believes, we have the potential to be like Jesus?
4. Discuss the areas in your life, where your full potential is not being realised
5. What will you do, to start living out that potential?