**POSITION, POTENTIAL, PURPOSE** 2019-09-22

**1 CORINTHIANS 6:20 (NKJV)** For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s

* How do you see yourself, in relation to God?
* Is our identity wrapped up in our greatest achievement, financial position, social standing or functional service?
* Do you see yourself as being able to cope through life without much help from God, or do you see yourself as being totally dependant on His every grace and mercy?
* Before you answer, think about whether you usually pray as a last resort, after nothing else works, or do you go the Lord in prayer, first.
* Do we truly realize that we’ve been bought and paid for?
* The challenge is, that in God’s mind, this transaction has already taken place. But to many of us, it has not.
* Let’s look at a passage to explain this:

**EPHESIANS 2:1-6(NLTSE)** “Once you were ***dead*** because of your disobedience and your many sins. 2 You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. 3 All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God’s anger, just like everyone else.

4 But God is so rich in mercy, and He loved us so much, 5 that even though we were dead because of our sins, He gave us life when He raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s grace that you have been saved!) 6 For He raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.”

* Its important to understand the three kinds of death taught in scripture:

1. Physical death: separation of the spirit from the body

2. Spiritual death: separation from God through sin

3. Eternal death: man choosing to remain separated from God in sin.

* This passage describes the position of spiritual authority, of the person who is born again
* It gives us a clear indication of where God wants us, namely, seated with Him.
* It’s a position of favour
* Bad things are not going to stay away because we occupy this place, but because we occupy this place, the devil will attack us, just like he wanted to dethrone God (see **ISAIAH 14:14**)
* Do you realize how valuable you are to God?
* He paid for you with the most valuable thing in heaven, His Son Jesus Christ
* You’re worth more to God than anything in heaven or on earth.
* This transaction is complete, when we humble ourselves and allow God’s perfect will to come to pass in our lives on a daily basis:

**ROMANS 12:1-2(NLTSE)** “And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice, the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him. Don’t copy the behaviour and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know ***God’s will*** for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.”

* In summary, this is the position of those who live like Jesus:

1. We were separated from God through sin

2. He has seated us in a place of spiritual favour and authority with Jesus Christ

3. We begin to exercise that authority once we humble ourselves to God’s will daily

**CARE GROUP DISCUSSION**

1. How does our position or attitude, effect the way we see things?
2. What does it mean to be "seated with Christ in heavenly places” and it what practical ways, can this be seen, in the life of a Christian?
3. The sermon spoke about a transaction taking place, when we humble ourselves. In what areas have we perhaps not humbled ourselves to allow this change of ownership?