

God made you for Greatness...

**NO MORE EXCUSES**

**The Bible tells us we  
have been empowered!**

# Who am I?

- ◎ [John 1:12](#) I am God's child.
- ◎ [Romans 5:1](#) I have been justified.
- ◎ [1 Corinthians 6:19-20](#) I have been bought with a price and I belong to God.
- ◎ [Ephesians 1:3-8](#) I have been chosen by God and adopted as His child.
- ◎ [Colossians 1:13-14](#) I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins.
- ◎ [Colossians 2:9-10](#) I am complete in Christ.
- ◎ [Hebrews 4:14-16](#) I have direct access to the throne of grace through Jesus Christ.

# Who am I?

- ◎ [Romans 8:28](#) I am assured that God works for my good in all circumstances.
- ◎ [Romans 8:31-39](#) I am free from any condemnation brought against me and I cannot be separated from the love of God.
- ◎ [2 Corinthians 1:21-22](#) I have been established, anointed and sealed by God.
- ◎ [Philippians 1:6](#) I am confident that God will complete the good work He started in me.
- ◎ [2 Timothy 1:7](#) I have not been given a spirit of fear but of power, love and a sound mind.
- ◎ [1 John 5:18](#) I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me.

# Who am I?

- [John 15:5](#) I am a branch of Jesus Christ, the true vine, and a channel of His life.
- [John 15:16](#) I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit.
- [2 Corinthians 5:17-21](#) I am a minister of reconciliation for God.
- [Ephesians 2:6](#) I am seated with Jesus Christ in the heavenly realm.
- [Ephesians 2:10](#) I am God's workmanship.
- [Ephesians 3:12](#) I may approach God with freedom and confidence.
- [Philippians 4:13](#) I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.

**But we live like we are  
crippled...**

The Chicken and the Pig

**Are you 100% committed  
to the cause?**

# Rocky's Story

- He knew he wanted to be an actor all his life, because he wanted to inspire people.
- He talked funny, looked dopey and was turned away from agent's office more than 1,000 times.
- His persistence gave him bit part roles in 3 movies.

# Rocky's Story

- He was broke and starving. But he did not want to get a job as he feared he would get seduced and lose his hunger for his dream.
- One day, while hiding in a public library to keep warm, he came across a book by Edgar Allan Poe and was hooked.

# Rocky's Story

- He then decided to start writing stories. He kept writing and writing and finally managed to sell a script for \$100 (Paradise Alley).
- He kept going and going but was so broke that he had to sell his dog for \$25
- He loved his dog so much he cried.



# Rocky's Story

- One day he saw Mohammed Ali fighting Webner and was inspired to write a story in 20 hours straight.
- He was so excited and knew what he wanted and why he wanted it.
- However, all the agents said it was sappy and predictable.
- Finally, he meets some guys who loved it and offered \$125,000 for the script.

# Rocky's Story

- He said, ok, BUT I got to star in it. I got to be Rocky.
- They said no way, you are NOT an actor. You look funny, you speak funny.
- He walked away.
- They called him back 2 weeks later to offer him \$250,000 for him NOT to star in his own movie.
- They upped it to \$500,000.
- Stallone never budged.

# Rocky's Story

- Finally they gave in and offered \$35,000 and % of movie takings.
- Stallone, with that \$35,000, went straight back to the place he sold his dog, and waited 3 days to spot the guy.
- Stallone offered \$100, \$500, \$1000 and finally, the guy settled for \$15000 AND a part in Rocky.

- ① Many of us go through our Christian life full of lame excuses.
- ① We limit God's power by not allowing him to use us to the fullest.
- ① We forget his promise to us and who we are in God.
- ① We run his race, like Losers, not winners.

# Excuses we might use:

- ⦿ There is only one of me. It won't make much of a difference
- ⦿ I am already doing my best. God will understand if I cannot give 100%
- ⦿ I am to be meek and humble. So I should stay under the radar and not seek Glory.

# God wants us to be winners

- ◎ **1 Corinthians 9:24-27**

- ◎ <sup>24</sup>Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. <sup>25</sup>Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. <sup>26</sup>Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. <sup>27</sup>No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

# God wants us to be winners

- ⦿ Paul is telling us not to be satisfied to be part of the pack.
- ⦿ He wants us to claim the prize, to be partakers of the victory at the end of the race.
- ⦿ So **STOP** standing on the sidelines
- ⦿ Do everything with your eye on the prize

# Meekness is not weakness

- The Greek word is **prautes** {prah-ot'-ace}
- This is a difficult word to define, for there really is no English word that corresponds to the Greek.
- Aristotle defines it as "the ability to bear reproaches and slights with moderation, and not to embark on revenge quickly, and not to be easily provoked to anger, but to be free from bitterness and contentiousness, having tranquillity and stability in the spirit." (On Virtues And Vices)

# Meekness is not weakness

- Gentleness (or meekness), then, is that virtuous quality by which "we treat all men with perfect courtesy, that we can rebuke without rancor, that we can argue without intolerance, that we can face the truth without resentment, that we can be angry and sin not, that we can be gentle and yet not weak." -

**Barclay**

# Meekness is not weakness

- Meekness is thus, having a humble opinion of one's self, along with the inner strength to control one's emotions, tongue, and behaviour
- We see this in the example of Moses and of Christ. Num 12:3; Mt 11: 28-30

# Our Deepest Fear *(by Miranne Williamson)*

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate  
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.  
It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us.

We ask ourselves, Who am I to be  
Brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?  
Actually, who are you not to be?  
You are a child of God!  
Your playing small does not serve the world.  
There is nothing enlightened about shrinking  
So that other people won't feel insecure around you.

We are all meant to shine, as children do.  
We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us.  
It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone.  
And as we let our own light shine,  
We unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.  
As we are liberated from our own fear,  
Our presence automatically liberates others.

# We are God's POWERFUL Army

- Joseph never “shied” away from his secular success.
  - Give your work to God. Perform it with integrity. Like Joseph, use it to glorify God.
- Daniel never waivered in his resolve, he was focused on the “prize”.
- Nehemiah dared to dream and had a vision to rebuild the city. (Neh 2:3-5)

# What will be your legacy?

- **Nehemiah 13**

- <sup>14</sup> Remember me for this, O my God, and do not blot out what I have so faithfully done for the house of my God and its services.

- <sup>22</sup> .....Remember me for this also, O my God, and show mercy to me according to your great love.

- **Philippians 3:13-14**

- <sup>13</sup>Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

**If you are not dead, God  
is not done with you...**

Are you fulfilling his potential for you?  
What will be your response to his call?