

Priceless! You are a Child of God!

I am the Daughter of the King... Tangled No More!

I don't know about you, but I love a good princess story. One of my favorites is the story of Rapunzel as told in Disney's *Tangled*. Rapunzel was born a princess, in the castle, but she didn't know it. She was taken by Mother Gothel and locked in a tower, where she lived for 18 years. One day, her quiet tower is disturbed by Flynn Rider, a thief who has stolen the lost princess' crown from the castle. To make a long story short, Flynn helps her to leave the tower and to go see the lanterns in the sky she sees every year on her birthday. Ultimately, Rapunzel learns her true identity—she isn't just a girl who has been locked in a tower, but she is a princess, the daughter of the King!

In a way, the story of *Tangled* is our story. Rapunzel's tower is like sin—it keeps us separate from God. Ever since Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit in Genesis 3, our sin has separated us from God. The good news is we don't have to stay locked in sin's tower. Ephesians 2:13 says, ***But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.***

The lure of the lights that appeared each year is ultimately what got Rapunzel out of her tower and led her to the palace. The light rescued Rapunzel from the tangled mess of lies. Jesus is the Light of the World and He came to rescue us from our sin. Colossians 1:13-14 says, ***For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.***

One of the songs in *Tangled* is "At last I see the Light." Rapunzel sings these words: "At last I see the light... just how blind I've been. Suddenly I see, it is, where I am meant to be... It is like a fog has lifted, the world has shifted." When I first hear this song, I immediately thought of the old hymn "Amazing Grace" which says, "I was blind but now I see."

We could look at Rapunzel's song as a song of conversion. When we receive God's grace—**God's Riches At Christ's Expense**—and receive Christ as our Savior, we are taken from the dark into the light, we were blind, but now we see. When we receive His light, and receive Him as our personal Savior, we become His children, we become Daughters of the King—His princesses! 1 Peter 2:9 states, ***But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.***

If you are in Christ, you have received Him as your Savior, you are God's child, His precious daughter, a princess of the King of Kings. Hold your head high, confident that we are no longer tangled in sin's power and we too will have our happily ever after: ***For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord*** (Romans 6:23).

(You can check out the song, *At Last I See the Light*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILRs2r6lcHY>)



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Conversation Starters



Gather with some friends and spend some time going deep with conversation around the idea that your identity is in Christ, and you are a child of God.

- ◆ How would you respond to the question, “Who are you?”
- ◆ When you think of the fact that your identity is found in Christ, what does that mean to you?
- ◆ How do you feel with the idea of being God’s child, His daughter?
- ◆ Why do you think God wants us to identify as children?
- ◆ When we receive Christ as our Savior we become His children. When did that happen for you? Share your conversion story.
- ◆ Think about who you were before you were adopted into God’s family. How has Jesus changed you?
- ◆ How should simply knowing our identity as children of God change our attitudes? Our actions?
- ◆ How does God call His children to behave? Are there rules to follow (see 1 John 3)? Are you representing your Father well?

Daughter, the Creator defines His creation, your identity is found in the One who created you, so you can always know exactly who you are. You are a beloved child of God. Heather Krout

Additional Resources

Check out our website for more resources to help you focus on your identity as a child of God: <https://usw-womensministries.org/>

Bible Study: *You are His*

Precious Child by Major Sybil Smith

Blog: *You are His Precious Child*

by Colonel Genevera Vincent
Devotional *His Precious Child & coordinating craft* by Captain Leilani Armendariz

Check out our Playlist of songs that speak of our identity in Christ:

WM 2024-2025

Priceless: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/7xLxDn8lLdAq4je3D5L4YK?si=547054ac7309495c>

Prayers of a Child to Her Father

Romans 8:15 says, *The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.”* Both Jesus (in Mark 14:36) and Paul (see also Galatians 4:6) used this title to address God. Abba is a common term that expressed affection, confidence, and trust. Some say that abba is both deeply intimate and profoundly respectful. We, as His children, can approach Him as a child approaches her Daddy.

As God’s children, we are given access to Him. Hebrews 4:16 says, *Let us approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.* He also says we can pray about everything: *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus* (Philippians 4:6-7). He wants us to tell Him everything: *Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you* (1 Peter 5:7). *Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken* (Psalm 55:22).

Whatever is on your heart, bring it all to your Abba, Father. Approach Him boldly, envision yourself sitting on His lap or you snuggling close beside Him, and lay it all out to the Lord. He loves you, and He delights in hearing from you. *Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge* (Psalm 62:8).

Since we are focusing on our identity as God’s children, spend time daily praying to your Abba, Father specifically for those in your life—your family and friends—who aren’t yet children of God.



Read the Book of Ephesians and learn what it says about identity in Christ.

Flourishing in the Word

This year we are focusing on flourishing in our identity in Christ. The Book of Ephesians says a lot about who we are in Christ. As you read, note how it describes who we are in Christ, and how we should behave. Sundays can be used for further study.

Oct 1	Ephesians 1:1-6	Oct 17	Ephesians 4:17-19
Oct 2	Ephesians 1:7-10	Oct 18	Ephesians 4:20-24
Oct 3	Ephesians 1:11-14	Oct 19	Ephesians 4:25-28
Oct 4	Ephesians 1:15-23	Oct 20	<i>Grace Day</i>
Oct 5	Ephesians 2:1-10	Oct 21	Ephesians 4:29-5:2
Oct 6	<i>Grace Day</i>	Oct 22	Ephesians 5:3-7
Oct 7	Ephesians 2:11-13	Oct 23	Ephesians 5:8-14
Oct 8	Ephesians 2:14-18	Oct 24	Ephesians 5:15-20
Oct 9	Ephesians 2:19-22	Oct 25	Ephesians 5:21-24
Oct 10	Ephesians 3:1-6	Oct 26	Ephesians 5:25-33
Oct 11	Ephesians 3:7-13	Oct 27	<i>Grace Day</i>
Oct 12	Ephesians 3:14-21	Oct 28	Ephesians 6:1-4
Oct 13	<i>Grace Day</i>	Oct 29	Ephesians 6:5-9
Oct 14	Ephesians 4:1-6	Oct 30	Ephesians 6:10-17
Oct 15	Ephesians 4:7-13	Oct 31	Ephesians 6:18-24
Oct 16	Ephesians 4:14-16		

Flourishing Ideas from the Territory

Bakersfield, CA celebrated their “2nd Birthdays” — when they were born again. Everyone took time to share how they came to Christ and any influencing person involved.

Bellingham, WA had Major Larry Shiroma share virtually about the Molokai Mission.

Bremerton, WA did a study on “*When God Doesn’t Fix It*” by Laura Story.

Concord, CA is doing a Bible study on the book, *Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak* By Shannon Bream.

Coeur d’Alene, ID did the *In the Footsteps of Jesus* Bible Study by Max Lucado, and then held their “Love Soup” Annual meeting. They all created Mason Jar layered “Love Soup” Mixes to take home.

Eastside, WA finished a Bible Study on *Every Good Gift* by Ann Voskamp and is starting a new study, *Finding Your People*, by Jennie Allen.

Roseville, CA is doing a book study on *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World* by Joanna Weaver.

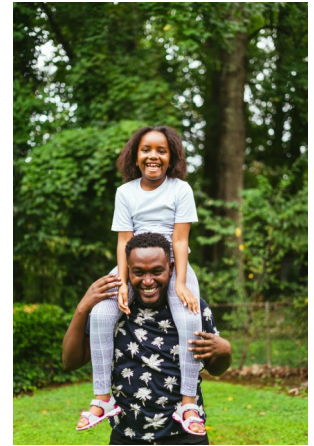
Sacramento, CA is doing a Bible Study on *Battlefield of the Mind* by Joyce Meyer.

Tri-Cities, WA did a study on the Armor of God.

Adopted

When my daughter, Emily, was in middle school she was invited to attend the adoption ceremony of her friend Lakota. Emily and I went to the courthouse and got to witness the special day when Lakota's foster family became her forever family. The judge talked to the parents about the fact they were choosing Lakota to be a part of the family and they said "Yes, they choose her." The judge turned to Lakota and told her what a privilege it is to choose your family (not everyone gets that opportunity). They declared they chose Lakota, the Judge asked her whether she wanted to choose them to be her parents. She said yes! What a privilege to be chosen!

The judge then declared that Lakota was officially part of the family, with a new name. She would now have the same last name as her new mom and dad, and siblings. No longer a foster child, only there temporarily. Lakota now belonged forever.



What a beautiful reminder of the fact that God chooses us to be His children. Ephesians 1:4-7 declares, ***For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.***

“Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or husband’s will, but born of God.” John 1:12-13



Identity Statements

You are God's child, adopted into His family, the daughter of the King of Kings! Here are some identity statements for you to claim, memorize and meditate on.

The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. Romans 8:15-17

"I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters," says the Lord Almighty. 2 Corinthians 6:18

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 1 John 3:1