CAG 7-23-2023 "Legos with a Purpose"

"Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body." - 1 Corinthians 12:15-20

Have you ever thought about the fact that we the Church are the collective hands and feet of Jesus! When you say it that way it carries a little more weight. It simply means that what we do matters.

Did you know that you matter!

This is so true you matter all of you in this room matter. Regardless of what the world has told you, what some of your parents may have told you .I promise you matter. How do I know this? It's in His word!

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. Psalm 139:13-14

This tells me that "You weren't an accident, you weren't a second thought. No, you were planned by God to live in such a time as this for such a time as this."

Can we all take just a minute to grasp that last statement.

"You weren't an accident, you weren't a second thought. No, you were planned by God to live in such a time as this for such a time as this."

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them. Ephesians 2:10

I don't know who needed to hear that tonight but can I tell you it's the truth "You Matter"

Legos have been played with by children and adults of all ages for years. They are fascinating and fun.

Why?

Because the possibilities are only limited by our imagination!

These small plastic bricks with little raised circles. Who would have ever imagined that these pieces of plastic would be worth billions of dollars? Literally, a fortune.

The Danish toy company that began in the 1930s has built a Lego empire around the building bricks that they introduced in the 1950s.

Individually, Legos are just cheap pieces of plastic — and, I might add, the cause great deal of distress to parents who, in the darkness of night, step on the lone Lego left on the bedroom floor.

But despite their basic design, the magic is in the way they fit together. Legos are designed to be TOGETHER — that's what those little raised circles are for, to attach each brick to another. AND TOGETHER these plastic pieces can be made into fantastic creations. Full-scale models of castles, cars, airplanes, spaceships have all been built from LEGOS.

It seems that Legos can be put together to create almost anything. They are just pieces of plastic. BUT TOGETHER they create something much bigger and better than the sum of their parts.

We the church are like Legos — a collection of individuals of various sizes, shapes, and colors. Individually, we may not be much to look at — a big jumble mess.

In the church, we all have our own unique giftings and personalities; none of us are exactly like. Don't get me wrong – *Individually we certainly can make a difference, but the impact that we can have is so much bigger when we don't go at it alone.*

God has created us all of us to be a part of something bigger than ourselves.

We as Christians we make up the body of Christ; we each are a small part of a much greater body. As Christians we are one small piece that when combined with the other unique pieces form the body we become a Power House.

An individual Lego piece doesn't seem like that big of a deal. Maybe that's how you feel. Like you don't matter that you can't do anything you are to small no potential. But if placed with others you are and can be a world changer.

"Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many." - 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 Together we are greater than we are individually. Together we are one body and we each make up a unique and critical part of the body.

"Every Piece Matters"

In a complicated Lego structure, every piece matters. They matter differently, but they all matter the same. Some pieces matter because they visually help the Legos look the way they were envisioned to look.

Other pieces, while they cannot be seen, provide a structure that helps prevent the Legos from toppling over. Each piece has an important function; each function not exactly the same as another, but each function equally as important to the overall structure.

The same is true in the body of Christ. We each bring unique value to the body, none exactly the same as the person next to you.

"Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body." - 1 Corinthians 12:15-20

What gifts do you have and how are they a part of the body of Christ? How are you using your personality, your talents, and your passions as an important piece in the body?

"Every Piece Matters"

Your past doesn't disqualify you from being used in the kingdom if that were the case couldn't any of us be used, because we all have a past.

God gave me a word for your church today. Not only did He give me a message to preach He gave me a word for you to hold, on to. The word is not just a word this word is the soul meaning behind who you are!

I titled this sermon "Legos with a Purpose"

Did you know that God has given all of us gifts to be used for the kingdom? We as followers of Christ need to use our gifts as a platform to enhance the kingdom.

I love it when our God given gifts are used to align us with Gods plan!

I need all of you to know this morning that God has a plan for all of you. You might not know that but it's the truth God has a plan for you and He wants to fulfil that through you by using your talents and giftings.

l love <mark>Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so</mark> we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

First thing you need to know is that God created you, and that you are His masterpiece. Regardless of what the world says about you. He has a work for you to do.

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

Commit your works to the Lord And your plans will be established. Proverbs 16:3

God not only has a plan for you as individuals but for you us a church as well.

The sad thing is that so many of us miss that plan because we are trying to be perfect.

I want to tell you a few things today write these down. <mark>" We don't need to be perfect we need</mark> <mark>a Purpose"</mark> Let's be honest

"If we are always striving to be perfect we will never find our purpose."

"Sometimes we miss the plan because we are Problem driven and not Purpose Driven"

You see we have stop being driven by our problems and start being driven by our Purpose! When we become driven by our Purpose God will use us to solve our problems.

Check this out. I saw this, in my study time this week. <mark>"Now when David had served God's</mark> purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed. Acts 16:31

What David had purpose? Yes, he did! - *David was a Lego*

Check this out; David wasn't driven by His Problems he was driven by his Purpose!

David's purpose was to serve God.

Now Trust me when you find your purpose for Christ you will find problems. I mean David found his fair share of problems while trying to fulfil God's purpose in his life.

I mean think about it He was anointed to be King at the early age of 17 but wasn't appointed king until he was thirty. *That's 13 years!*

A lot can happen in 13 years!

Those thirteen years of waiting brought lots of problems to fulfilling his purpose.

I like to think of those 13 years as spiritual boot camp. I like to think during this time God was preparing David for his purpose! "The truth be told God is preparing all of us for our purpose!

Let me ask you some tough questions.

Are you using your purpose to change your family? Are you being a Lego Are you using your purpose to change your work place? Are you being a Lego Are you using your purpose to change your neighborhood? Are you being a Lego Are you using your purpose to change our Church? Are you being a Lego Are you using your purpose to change our Church? Are you being a Lego Are you using your purpose to change your Community? Are you being a Lego

Toughest question of all? Are you are accomplishing God's purpose for your life? -

Are you being a Lego

Truthfully some of you may be asking, "What is God's purpose for my life?" Good question!

There's a whole book which answers that one. It's called the Bible, and it explains very clearly what God's purpose is for your life. Because for some of you in this room you are thinking how can I be used to change anybody my ability to influence others is Zero! Not True!

Did you know that you have the ability to influence others all around you with just the gifts that you have? We will use those gifts this year to reach our community for Jesus like never before.

I mean that! It's so true!

You just like David, can be used to serve God's purpose in making a difference in somebody's life if you let Him use you. Every day we are need to preach the gospel with words but more importantly with our actions to reach our schools, our towns, and our families.

You can be a Lego

Hear me today Carbondale.

It's time to make Jesus famous with what he has given you.

You see it's not about us its always been and always will be about Him! **John 3:30 He must increase, but I must decrease.** In everything we do we have to point people to Jesus!

We have to be a Lego

Today I am asking you will you take your God given talents and use them as a platform to fulfill His Purpose. "*Will you be a Lego?*"

We as individuals and even more so we as the church have to be willing, to use the Purpose we have, on the Platform we have been given, to fulfill the Plan that God has for us. And if we will do just that Carbondale will never be the same.

Let's be Legos!

On the stage our 100's of Legos with a hole drilled in them and a piece of leather so you can make a bracelet to be a constant reminder to you that we Carbondale our church and you as individuals are being us to build something bigger than us.