

What’s your superpower?

Being the parent of an 11-year-old means being exposed to some TV shows I might not otherwise even dream of watching. Nickelodeon is one of Sam’s go-to networks. She enjoys several programs, and when we share a living space, I often get the opportunity to enjoy those shows with her.

As the summer break wound down last week, Sam was intent on making the most of the precious few days. I plopped down on the couch and began checking emails, mainly to check on a package I was expecting later in the week. The show “Henry Danger” was on, while the two of us spent time together. The one-eyed monster drew me into its vortex from which there is little to no escape.

Henry Hart is a typical teenager that goes to work part-time for a superhero’s alter-ego, Ray Manchester, at the Junk ‘n’ Stuff store. He soon discovers that Ray is the superhero Captain Man, a crime fighter extraordinaire who is indestructible as a side effect of a lab accident. As the series progresses, Henry eventually helps Captain Man by becoming his sidekick, Kid Danger.

The episode showed the dynamic duo of Captain Man and Kid Danger facing off against their arch-nemesis, Drex. Drex outsmarts Captain Man and puts his hands and head into escape-proof boxes, rendering the superhero helpless. Drex takes out his angst on Kid Danger, who has no superpowers to resist the villain’s onslaught.

Henry is ready to turn in his costume because of the embarrassing defeat he suffers at the hands of Drex. Schwoz is Captain Man’s trusted friend and cohort in fighting crime. Schwoz enlists the aid of a couple of aliens who set up a lab contraption to extract the vapor from a foreign lizard and a black-shag spider.

The experiment conveys Henry his own unique superpower of hypermobility. With his new powers, Henry conquers Drex and frees Captain Man. Henry is now a superhero in his own right. In subsequent seasons, Henry becomes the program’s superhero with the aid of his sidekick. At this very moment, you ask yourself, “Preacher, what’s the point?” The point is two-fold. First, the program shows an apparent relationship between Captain Man and Henry that eventually leads to Kid Danger becoming a superhero. This was something Henry would never dream of or accomplish on his own.

Secondly, this is precisely how the church passes the faith from generation to generation. Mentoring relationships allow people to see gifts in us that we would never find on our own. It’s also how we find our superpower because, make no mistake, *we all have one*.

In church speak, they are referred to as spiritual gifts. Discovering and using our individual gifting help us become better followers of Jesus and share the love of Christ with those in the community. We find and hone our superpowers in Christian homes. They are developed in WOW, Youth Group, Sunday Schools, and Children’s Church.

The group of disciples Jesus gathered during his earthly ministry did not look like anyone special. In fact, they were the Henry Harts of their day. But as they watched Jesus do the impossible, exercising authority over creation, healing all manner of diseases, casting out demons, and pouring himself out in selfless service, they answered a calling to become someone unexpectedly capable of advancing the Missio Dei, the divine mission, literally the sending of God. That mission is to share the gospel across borders, ethnicities, and generations. So right now, you should be asking yourself, “What’s *my* superpower?” and perhaps, “How can I use it to make a difference in the world?”

My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Colossians 2:2-3

Pastor Kenny

Calendar for the Week			
Wednesday		Sunday	
a.m. Food Truck/bag food		9:00 a.m. Marvell Sunday School	
Friday		9:45 a.m. Choir Practice	
8:30 a.m. Food Give Away		10:00 a.m. Marvell Worship	
Sunday			
8:45 a.m. Lexa Worship			
ATTENDANCE		STEWARDSHIP REPORT	
Lexa Worship	3	2022 Budget	\$193,280
Marvell Sunday School	28	Needed each week	3,717
Marvell Worship	51 + 105	Received this week	3,330
		Capital Improvements	50
VISITOR		Parsonage	50
Dylan Trott – US Army		PPR & Finance Committees need to meet.	