

DISCOVERING YOUR DESTINY

Introduction: last week we saw:

- We are known
 - We were in God's mind before creation
- We have His mark of ownership on us.
- God raises us up
 - God can do more in us than we can imagine.
- That is just a snippet of the wealth of blessing that is ours in Christ.

1. Live Well

Ephesians 4:1-3 *As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.*

- Worthy Attitude:
 - Humble
 - Gentle
 - Patient
 - Patience involves enduring difficulties, delays or annoyance without becoming frustrated or losing one's temper.
 - Bearing with one another
 - Patience, tolerance or endurance in the face of difficulties, annoyances or discomforts caused by others.
 - Unity – be a peacemaker.

2. The Power of One

Ephesians 4:4-6 *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

- Focus:
 - One body – Church
 - One spirit – Holy Spirit
 - One hope –
 - One Lord – Jesus who is
 - head of the church and
 - head of me
 - one faith – in Jesus and all that He has done
 - one baptism – water and Spirit
 - one God and Father.

3. The Power of Grace

- Grace definition: “God’s favour toward the unworthy”

Exodus 33:14-17 *The Lord replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”*

Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”

And the Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you, and I know you by name.”

- What will distinguish us?
 - Presence and grace
- “I know you by name”.
- Ephesians 2:8-9 – grace saves
- 1 Corinthians 15:10 – grace in us to do the work

- Hebrews 4:16 – grace in time of need.
- 2 Timothy 2:1 – grace that strengthens us
- Romans 5:20-21 – sin increases, grace abounds
 - Sin reigns through destruction and death
 - Grace reigns through righteousness and life.

4. Grace to Serve.

Ephesians 4:7 *But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.*

- Each one has a measure of grace

ILLUSTRATION: Picture of a conquering hero returning from battle and giving gifts to his subjects.

- Gifts given to church are people to help whole body grow.

Ephesians 4:11-12 *Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.*

- Ministry roles
- Jesus operated in the five ministry roles

Luke 4:18-19 *“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”*

- Evangelist – preach good news to the poor
- Teacher – sent to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
- Prophet – recovery of sight for the blind.
- Pastor – release the oppressed
- Apostle – proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.
- Jesus has given a measure of grace to YOU.