

GREG'S NOTES

A NEW BEGINNING TEACHING OUTLINES

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SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED

Ephesians 1

A poll taken among Americans revealed that 61% thought the main purpose of life is enjoyment and personal fulfillment. Among born-again Christians, 50% felt that the purpose of life is enjoyment and self-satisfaction. News flash: if you are a Christian, that is not the purpose of life! You are here to praise and bring glory to God. He predestined you to bring glory to His name.

PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES

1. **God chose you to be His very own child.** He adopted you into His family with all the rights privileges that follow. He chose you to have fellowship and intimacy with Him. Or, to put another way, God chose you so you would be His personal friend. How amazing is that? says, “I want you to be My friend. I choose you for that.”
2. **God predestined you to be holy and without blame.** This is the outgrowth of this friendship and relationship. When you love someone, you want to do the things that please them. When you don't care about somebody, you disregard their wishes or desires. Ephesians 1:4 says, “He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love” (NKJV).
3. **God chose us to have a relationship with Him and to live holy lives and become more like Him.** Romans 8:29 says, “Whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His own dear Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren” (NKJV). The more you spend time with Him, the more you become like Him.
4. **God chose us that we might live spiritually fruitful lives.** In John 15:16 (NKJV) Jesus said, “You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.” This means that as I walk in fellowship with God, I will become more like Jesus every day. I will have a fruitful productive God-honoring life. God chose me to live a life that would honor Him.

RELEVANT REMINDERS

- Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God. Ask yourself, “Can I write ‘For God's glory’ over it?” If you can't do it for the glory of God, don't do it.
- God has given to all of us gifts and talents that we need to use for His glory, and we are to bring glory to God in the bad times as well as the good times.
- God has put His royal seal on you. Maybe you don't see it, but God does. You are the property of Jesus Christ, redeemed, and sealed by the Holy Spirit.

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APPLICABLE ACTIONS

You exist to bring glory to God. Jesus died on the cross and shed His blood for our sins so we could have this relationship with God. Do you know God in a personal way? Is he living inside of you? You say, “I think I am a Christian because, as I recall, my grandmother was a Christian.” It is nice that Grandma was a Christian, but that doesn’t really do a lot for you. God has no grandchildren, only sons and daughters. Jesus is standing at the door of your life and He is knocking. If you will hear His voice and open the door He will come in.