

(miracle of life change slide at start)

“Blessed”

(Ephesians 1:3-14)

Big Idea: God the father deserves praise because he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Chosen by the father (4- 6)

Redeemed by the son (7-12)

Sealed by the Spirit (13-14)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places

Blessed

In Christ

Every spiritual blessing

Chosen by the father (4- 6)

⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

In Christ

“The truth is that salvation is entirely a work of God in which humans are totally involved. If God is the one in whom we live and move and have our being (Acts 17:28), we do not stand isolated from him in making a decision for him. God is the one who works in and through us even as we choose him.” (NIV Application Commentary)

Holy and blameless before Him

He Adopted Us

In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

Adopted

According to his will

⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

“The election language in Ephesians 1 is primarily about God and shows why God should be praised...His purpose is to focus on God at work, planning and drawing people to himself through Christ” (NIV Application Commentary)

Application

What is your response to the fact that God has chosen you?

Gratitude

Desire to live for Him

Either way, Christ’s love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. ¹⁵ He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them. II Cor. 5:14-15 NLT

What is my response to God’s choice of me?

Communion.