

- Series major theme in 2015
  - Understanding who I am
  - Becoming who We are
- Setting of Ephesians
  - Ephesus the City
  - Paul the Author
    - Established 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey Acts 18
    - Site of amazing work of God Acts 19:11-12
    - Close relationships Acts 20

- Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:
- <sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- <sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

- 1. Greeting vs.1-2
  - Paul an apostle
    - shared life, loves them
  - To the Saints
    - clear intention of the letter
  - Desire of Paul
    - Grace of God to you
    - Peace of God to you

- 2. Blessed / Blessing vs.3
  - a) thankful hearts important
    - in Christ great blessing
    - begins with thankful to God
  - b) vast treasure
    - every spiritual blessing in heavenly places
    - big statement, bigger than we can imagine
    - not limited to earth, governments, life here

- 3. Chosen vs. 4-6
  - a) Before foundation of World
    - you were known & desired
  - b) Purpose & Position
    - holy and blameless before him implications
    - to the praise of his glorious grace response
  - c) Motivation in Love
    - the why matters

- 4. Adopted vs. 5
  - new identity belonging to God as
    - his children
    - citizens of Kingdom of Heaven
    - protected by our Father
    - inheritance
    - family brothers and sisters
      - not alone

# So What?

- 1. Who I am Matters
  - How I view myself directs how I live
  - Need to understand who I am as a new creation
  - 2. Thankful Hearts our Baseline
- 3. Reflecting on Being Picked
- 4. Adopted so I now.....