

WEEK 2

You Are Chosen

By: Bethany Lay

Ephesians 1:5-8

These are some of my favorite verses in the book of Ephesians. In verse 4, we saw that God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes. Now, verse 5 continues by saying that He not only chose us, but He adopted us into His own family.

Remember that Paul was speaking to Gentile Christians in Ephesus. Until now, only the Jews were considered to be God's people in His family. But the "mystery" that is being revealed is that both Jews and Gentiles have been chosen. This means *any* of us who are followers of Christ.

And why? Because God wanted to do it and it gave Him great pleasure. That's it. We bring God pleasure! That gives me such an incredible sense of worth. It hope it does for you too.

But it doesn't stop there. It would be enough that God was pleased to choose me, but He also purchased my freedom with the blood of Christ and forgave my sins. Because of Christ's sacrifice, I can escape the wages of my sin, death. I can live eternally with God.

But wait, there's more...He showered His kindness on us along with all wisdom and understanding. We are blessed immeasurably more than we can even imagine.

QUESTION: When do you struggle with knowing, understanding or embracing your worth?

WALK IT OUT: The next time you feel that you are worthless, trapped or confused, remember that if you are believer, God has chosen you, freed you, and given you wisdom and understanding.

PRAYER : Dear God, words cannot seem to express my gratitude for Your kindness. I deserved death, but You *chose* me to be your child, free from the bondage of sin and full of wisdom and undersanding. Please help me to rest in this truth. In Jesus' name, Amen.