

Defined

Ephesians 1:1-8 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are at Ephesus and *who are* faithful in Christ Jesus: 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He lavished on us.

1. Our identity is based upon God's _____.

Definition of personality: the combination of characteristics or qualities that form an individual's distinctive character.

Ephesians 1:1-3 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are at Ephesus and *who are* faithful in Christ Jesus: 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ.

- Life is about _____ and not _____.

• Paul is an _____ of Jesus.

- The word apostle means one who is _____.
- 2 Corinthians 5:20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

• Paul wrote to the _____ of God.

- The word saint means someone who is _____ by God.

• God has blessed us _____.

- The two words "in Christ" create a positional statement.

Galatians 3:26-28 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 1:1-8

2. Our identity is based upon God's _____.

• The _____ of God

- When I say the will of God, I'm talking about His plans, His purpose, His sovereignty.
- Isaiah 46:9 For I am God, and there is no other; *I am* God, and there is no one like Me.

- Isaiah 46:10 My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure.
- Ephesians 1:1 “Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus. By the will of God.”
- Ephesians 1:5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.

- **The _____ of God**

- Christopher Morgan: “The glory of God is the magnificence, worth, loveliness, and grandeur of God’s many perfections, which He displays in his creative and redemptive acts.”

- **The _____ of God**

Ephesians 1:7-8 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He lavished on us.

2 Peter 3:9 “The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

- **The people of God – The World**

Ephesians 1:5-6 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Revelation 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

3. Our identity is based upon God’s _____.

Ephesians 1:7-8 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He lavished on us.

- God is the great _____.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

1 – Because of who God is, I have _____.

2 – Because of who God loves, I have value.

3 – Because of what God has done, I have _____.