

GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE

Introduction – The letter that Paul wrote to the cosmopolitan congregation in Ephesus gives us the big-picture purpose of God in one long sentence.

A. Chosen before the creation of the world.

Ephesians 1:3-6

1. It is Christ's community that was chosen rather than an individual that is chosen.
2. God's predestined purpose was our adoption into full sonship through Jesus.
3. All one can do is stand in awe of God's saving work and break into praise as Paul does.

B. The world's greatest mystery story is God's redemptive work in Christ.

Ephesians 1:7-10

1. God's forgiveness of us shows how He has lavished us with grace.
2. God's eternal purpose is revealed in Jesus.
3. God's eventual goal is to unite all things in heaven with earthly life under the rule of Jesus.

C. How we become a part of God's predestined plan and purpose for us.

Ephesians 1:11-14

1. It begins with our really hearing the message of truth about God's good news rescue of humanity.
2. We put our hope in Christ through faith.
3. An adult baptism of faith results in our being marked by the promised Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 5:25-26

Conclusion – What will you inherit? As children of God we will inherit God's new creation. The Spirit is given to us as a deposit guaranteeing this hope.