

Ephesians - The Mystery of God's will  
September 8, 2024

As you engage in this discussion, follow the Spirit's leading and share your thoughts as you reflect on the message. Work through the discussion guide by reading Scripture and reflecting on a couple of questions and points from the message.

### Opening Questions

- *Share about the most important letter you have ever received.*
- *Are there people who know about you but do not know you? What would you like them to know?*

**Read the following scriptures together.**

#### **Ephesians 1:4-6**

For ***he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love, he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.***

#### **Ephesians 1:13**

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. ***When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,***

#### **Ephesians 1:8-10**

...With all wisdom and understanding, ***he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.***

### **Scriptures Referenced.**

Ephesians 1:3-8, Ephesians 1:7-8

### **A FEW QUESTIONS TO PONDER DURING YOUR DISCUSSION:**

- *Share with your group how you experienced God's goodness and love over the summer.*

- Was Scott's definition of pre-destination helpful? Do you still have questions? Talk about this in your group.

The Three persons of the Trinity are distinguished by their purpose.

**Father** - *Adopts*

**Son** - *Redeems*

**Spirit** - *Seals*

- Can you see the Trinity at work in Ephesians 1:13?
- How do you understand the mystery of God's will? How can you act upon this?
- How does Paul's declaration of love for the Ephesian church model Christian love for us today?

### **CLOSING: PRAY FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR GROUP**

How does Paul's prayer for the Ephesians inspire you to pray?