MISSION|GROUPS
*Connect to Christ ~ Connect to Community*

**Series:** Identity, Who You Are in Christ
**Passage:** Ephesians 1:1-6
**Title:** Your Identity in Christ, Part 2
**Speaker:** Pastor David Menard 4/26/2026

**Discussion Starter** –Can you recall a gift you received that was never utilized, (a check not cashed, advice not heeded, a voucher not redeemed)? What action is required to fully enjoy the benefits of a gift? How would you behave differently if you fully embraced and walked in the position, power, and gifting described in these verses?

**Read Ephesians 1:1-14**

1. What are distinguishing characteristics of the recipients of this letter, (verse 1)?

2. What clues in the text enable us to differentiate these blessings as originating from Father, Son, or Holy Spirit?

**Read Ephesians 1:3-6**

3. How is the Father's relationship with us, His children described in seven distinct actions, purposes, and declarations?

    a. In your own words, what role has God planned, positioned, and empowered His church, and you individually, to fulfill?

4. What does it mean that you were "chosen to be holy"? Does this mean sinless perfection?

    b. In what ways have you embraced this call of God upon your life?

5. How does blameless differ from shameless? Does it mean guilt free? (read Romans 8:31-34)

    c. Are you confident embracing a blameless identity? How are humility and meekness nurtured in understanding God seeing us as blameless?

6. What different ways might someone come to stand before God, (fear, defiance, guilt, bargaining, begging, demanding…)? How is love a unique and most excellent way to come to Him?

    d. Is your relationship with God transactional? How does a bond of love override transactional scorekeeping?

7. Define election, predestination, and adoption in your own words. How do these words differ? How do they work together in describing God's interaction with His children?

8. What is the "good pleasure of God's will" (verse5)? How is this will of God foreshadowed in God's original role for humans in Genesis 1:26?

    e. What does it mean to you that you are adopted as a child of God? What does our adoption demonstrate to the world, (John 17:20-24)?

9. How can a person be accepted by God? What privileges accompany this acceptance?