MISSION|GROUPS
Connect to Christ ~ Connect to Community

Series: Identity, Who You Are in Christ
Passage: Ephesians 1:7-12
Title: Your Identity in Christ, Part 4
Speaker: Pastor David Menard 5/10/2026

Discussion Starter –Can you imagine a large construction project, perhaps a freeway widening project? The planning may extend over 15 years and the actual work for 3 years, but it is not until completion that you can fully appreciate all the benefits. What benefits have you realized because of God's redemption? What benefits are yet to be experienced? How does knowing and living the experience differ from reading the plan and hearing the promises?

Read Ephesians 1:3-14

1. What are the 7 distinct blessings associated with salvation that the Father has planned for us as believers?

2. Why is this described as "good news"? What was the condition of humanity that required correction?

Read Ephesians 1:7-12

3. What are the seven blessings identified that describe the Son's work of salvation for us in these verses? What is significant about the sequence of these blessings?

    a. What additional depth of relationship and experience have we been given that is beyond the first three blessings? Are you longing and striving to experience all that God has in store for His people?

4. How does the bible use the word "mystery"? Why is God's will referred to as a mystery (1 Cor 2:6-16)? To whom was this veiled? When and how was it unveiled?

    b. Do you recall a time when these truths were mysteries to you? How has the Holy Spirit opened your understanding of God's word?

    c. What can we learn about God when we consider that He chose to reveal Himself to us? Why did He do that, (verse 9)? What is our reasonable response?

5. What is God's concluding act in the restoration of His creation? When is this said to occur, (what is meant by a dispensation)?

6. Read Romans 8:18-23. How is creation linked to humanity, whether our corruption or liberation?

    d. Why do you think this gathering together and reunification of heaven and earth must wait until the "dispensation of the fulness of times"?

7. From God's perspective, all things are gathered in one in Christ, what blessing do we gain in this soon to be restored kingdom?

    e. What can we expect to inherit? How is this inheritance similar or different from God's original purpose for Adam and Eve, (Genesis 1:28)?

    f. How does the understanding of these three blessings provided by the work of The Son encourage you to live as a citizen of His eternal kingdom and see beyond the challenges and trials of this temporal life?