

# God Has Chosen You

3/28/10

Eph. 2:1-13 NLT  
2 Corinthians 5:11-21

Pray

**1 Peter 2:9-10** But ***you are a chosen people***, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, ***that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light***. Once you were not a people, but ***now you are the people of God***; once you had not received mercy, but ***now you have received mercy***.

## Why we don't share

### 1. We are too busy with our own lives

**Matthew 13:22** The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but ***the worries of this life*** and the deceitfulness of wealth ***choke it, making it unfruitful***.

### 2. We are consumed with our weaknesses ... *spiritual navel gazing*

**2 Cor. 4:7** But ***we have this treasure in jars of clay*** to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

**Matthew 6:33** But ***seek first his kingdom and his righteousness***, and all these things will be given to you as well.

### 3. We feel inadequate

**2 Corinthians 2:15-16** For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And ***who is equal to such a task?***

### 4. We've become dull to the need

**Ephesians 2:12** remember that at that time ***you were separate from Christ, ... without hope and without God in the world***.

**2 Peter 1:9** ... he who lacks these things is ***shortsighted, even to blindness***, and has ***forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins***. NKJV

## Answering the Call

**Ephesians 2:10** For ***we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago***.

### 1. See the need ... *ask to see as He sees*

**Matthew 9:36-38** When ***he saw the crowds***, he had compassion on them, because they were ***harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd***. Then he said to his disciples, "The

harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. **Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."**

**Ephesians 2:1-12** ... you were **dead in your transgressions and sins, ... we were by nature objects of wrath. ... separate from Christ, excluded ... foreigners to the covenants of the promise, ... without hope ... without God in the world.**

**Isaiah 61:1-2** The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach **good news to the poor.** He has sent me to **bind up the brokenhearted,** to proclaim **freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,**

## 2. Remember His grace to you

**Titus 3:3-7** *It wasn't so long ago* that we ourselves were stupid and stubborn, dupes of sin, ordered every which way by our glands, going around with a chip on our shoulder, hated and hating back. But when God, our kind and loving Savior God, stepped in, he saved us from all that. It was all his doing; we had nothing to do with it. **He gave us a good bath, and we came out of it new people, washed inside and out by the Holy Spirit.** Our Savior Jesus poured out new life so generously. **God's gift has restored our relationship with him and given us back our lives. And there's more life to come—an eternity of life! MSG**

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**Matthew 10:8** ... **Freely you have received,** freely give.

## 3. Engage... Be Available

**Matthew 28:19-20** ... **go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.** And surely **I am with you always, to the very end of the age."**

**2 Cor. 5:17-21** Therefore, **if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;** the old has gone, the new has come! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and **gave us the ministry of reconciliation:** <sup>19</sup>that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And **he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.** <sup>20</sup>We are therefore **Christ's ambassadors,** as though God were **making his appeal through us.** We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

**1 Corinthians 15:58** Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. **Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord,** because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

**Isaiah 6:8** Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And **I said, "Here am I. Send me!"**

## 4. Prepare Yourself

**1 Peter 3:15**.....**But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.**