

**EPHESIANS – THE MYSTERY OF GOD’S CHURCH –  
OUR IDENTITY, OUR WALK, OUR WARFARE  
PROGRAM 1 (#912181)  
WEEK 1 (912341)  
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: Ephesians – The Mystery Of God’s Church –  
Our Identity, Our Walk, Our Warfare**

**TITLE: Program 1 – You Are Significant To God**

**MONDAY**

**OPEN**

With over six billion people on planet earth, do you wonder how could God care about me? I mean, does God even know I exist? O Beloved, it matters so much to Him. You say, “But you don’t know who I am, you don’t know how insignificant I am.” I want you to know Beloved, you’re going to find out today how very significant you are.

**PART ONE**

A wealth of books have been written by men, and yet, you know what, Beloved? There is no book in all the world like the Word of God. And this is what we’re going to look at today. I want you to just come in your mind’s eye, take a seat beside me and let’s you and I do some one on one Bible study of the most awesome book in all the world, because this Book, the

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Word of God is a book that is absolute pure unadulterated truth. And as we open this book what we're going to do is we're going to study the book of Ephesians. We're going to look at it chapter-by-chapter. We're going to look at it verse-by-verse. We're going to take it apart and we're going to digest it. And it is my prayer that as we do this that you imbibing the Word of God would be changed as if looking in a mirror into the image of Jesus Christ. You know we opened up saying that there are over six billion people in the world and how could God possibly know about you, especially if your name is not in print, especially if you are not some well-known person. You think I'm just so insignificant. And I want you to know that you're going to see how significant you are to God. You say, "I can't believe that." Well you may not be able to believe it now, but if you would sit down here with me every single day and if you'll open the Word of God and if you'll study along with me, if you'll look at His precepts for life you're going to find life taking on a whole new dimension. I've been studying and I've written a course on the book of Ephesians and now we have a study guide for you to go with this study. And all you have to do is just go online to [preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com), that's [preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com) and do you know what? You can download the study guide to go with our study on Ephesians absolutely free. And it's absolutely free, although it costs us, we don't want you to have any excuse for not studying the Word of God with us, because it is life transforming. Remember in Deuteronomy God told His people, **"...Man doesn't live by bread alone....,"** and neither does woman, **"...but [by every word that comes] out of the mouth of [God]."** **(Deuteronomy 8:3b)** And you and I are going to be studying every word that comes out of the mouth of God. And as we study it you need to remember that Jesus took that verse from Deuteronomy chapter 8 verse 3 and He quoted it to the devil when the devil was tempting Him to not believe God, to not cling to God as the waistband clings to the waist of the man. But he was tempting Him to walk independently of God, and that's when Jesus turned around and He looked at

the devil and He says, don't you know that, **"...It is written, 'Man [does] not live [by] bread alone, [He lives by] every word that [comes] out of the mouth of God.'"**(Matthew 4:4) Well as we open the book of Ephesians you say, "Well where is Ephesians?" Well I have a little way of remembering where Ephesians is. First you have the gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Then you have the book of Acts, which is the continuation of what's happening now with this new covenant. And then you have Romans and then you have 1 and 2 Corinthians and then you have the little epistles all written by Paul. And I remember them this way: General Electric Power Company, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians and Colossians. So after Corinthians then we go to General Electric Power Company, Galatians, Ephesians. So in Ephesians now chapter 1 this is what we read. **"Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God...."** (Ephesians 1:1a) Now I want you to remember that phrase, **"...by the will of God...."** He knew who he was and he knew that he was who he was because it was the will of God. He says **"...To the saints [which] are [in] Ephesus...."** (1:1b) You say I sure would like to be a saint. Well so many times we think saints are people that have canonized or they've had some vision or they've done some sort of miracle, but you're going to find out hey, that ain't what a saint is. I mean they can be saints, but every child of God is a saint. A saint simply means a holy one, one that is set apart. So he's writing, **"Paul, an apostle of [Jesus Christ], by the will of God, to the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus."** (1:1) So we find in the verse of Ephesians, who is writing? Paul is writing. To whom is he writing? He's writing to the saints who are at Ephesus. Ephesus was a city, there's a ruins of Ephesus now. In fact, every other year Precept Ministries International, the teaching team and myself go on a tour, and they're teaching tours. And one of them is to go to Greece and to go to Turkey where Ephesus is, and there to teach the book of Ephesians in Ephesus. It's absolutely awesome. So it is now a ruins, but it was a very very notable city in that day and we're going to look at that in a

few minutes. And he says, “[And to those] **who are faithful in Christ Jesus.**” (1:1b) Now as you look at this you have to understand that in the earliest manuscripts there it didn’t say Ephesus. It just said, **“To the saints and the faithful in Christ Jesus.”** But because of other manuscripts we really believe that this was written to the church at Ephesus and to the churches surrounding Ephesus. So it not only went to those that were actually living there, but those that were faithful in Christ Jesus who were in the area also, because it would be like, “Hey, hey, we got a letter from Paul! You want to hear this letter? It is absolutely awesome. You won’t believe what he says. It’s going to make you realize how important you are, how significant you are to God. I mean you are just a Gentile, but look at what you are in the mind and heart of God. Well as Paul writes this he uses his normal greeting. But after that normal greeting nothing is normal about this; well a lot is not normal about the beginning of this epistle. He says, **“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”** (1:2) Now what does it mean, **“grace to you”**? The word “grace” means unmerited, unearned favor, unmerited, unearned favor, and this is what the New Testament is all about. The New Testament is a new covenant. It is a covenant of grace that God made with His people. Now one of the things that we’re going to teach you to do as you and I sit here and as we study every day friend, Monday through Friday, as we open the Word of God, and as we dive into the text, these living, living words that are going to transform us; one of the things we’re going to teach you is to mark key repeated words. And I’ve written a book on grace, and it’s a study and God has used it just, just mightily. And ah, but in that book when I wrote that book on grace what I did is I went through my Bible and I marked every reference to grace. I colored it in a specific way. I colored it blue and then I put a yellow border around it. So wherever there is the word “grace” in my Bible it’s colored with blue and it has a yellow border around it. Now that’s because I want to know when that word is being used in the text. So immediately if I color-

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code it (this is very important) if I color-code it I can spot it and I can spot it because it has a distinctive marking. So this is what we’re going to teach you how to do. Now what we want you to do is we want you immediately to go and to download that study guide. Not immediately: I don’t want you to get up right now. We’re studying the Word of God. But afterwards I want you to go to [preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com) and I want you to download the study guide on Ephesians and I want you to get yourselves some colored pencils because we’re going to start marking the text. All right now it says **“Grace to you and peace....” (1:2a)** Well grace is unmerited, unearned favor. Grace is everything that belongs to Jesus Christ and is made available to you. In other words it’s all of His riches; everything that belongs to Him has been given to you freely bestowed on you because of who you are. You say, “But I’m telling you I don’t feel like anyone special.” You hang on because you’re going to see that you are special. But this is Paul’s common greeting.

**“Grace to you...,” why? (Ephesians 1:2a)** Because that’s what we need. We need grace. We need unmerited, unearned favor because we’re going to fail and we’re going to fall and God has shown me O Kay, look at how you have failed Me. Look at how you did not believe me. Look at how you did not walk in the light of this truth. And it has grieved my heart and it has grieved my heart because I think wake up girl. You’re old enough. You walked with the Lord long enough, you should have known this. You should have done this. Why did you not? But at the same time I think O God, You are so patient and You are so kind and You are so longsuffering and I thank You so much Father for loving me, because **“...whom the Lord loves He [chastens]....” (Proverbs 3:12 NKJV)** He disciplines every child whom He receives. And so that’s part of knowing that you belong to God. So the common greeting is **“Grace to you and peace....” (Ephesians 1:2a)** And Oh how we long for peace. I mean there is so much turmoil and there is so much pain and all of a sudden you think how could this happen? Why has that person walked away? What have I done you know? And and and so and

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and turmoil starts to to come in inside of you and stir you up and you find it hard to sleep and you begin to toss and turn and and Paul says “I want you to know Beloved; I want you to know Beloved...” You say “I’m not Beloved.” O yes you are if you’re a child of God. And if you’re not a child of God I want to tell you something, there has to be a reason that you’re listening to the teaching of the Word of God. And I’ll tell you what it is: it’s God reaching out, drawing you to Himself because He wants you to be accepted in the Beloved, because He wants to bring you into His forever family. We’ll talk about it more when we come back right after this important announcement.

## **PART TWO**

Welcome back. Let’s get back into the Word of God, now. Let’s go back to Ephesians, chapter 1. And what we have seen is Paul opening this epistle in a very typical way. He introduces himself. He identifies himself in this epistle that he is an apostle of Jesus Christ and he uses this phrase, “**...by the will of God...**” (Ephesians 1:1b) And that will of God is going to be so important and you’re going to see why in just a minute. Then he tells us who he’s writing to. He’s writing to the saints who are at Ephesus and to those that are faithful in Christ Jesus. Then he gives this typical grace and peace to you. And that peace comes Beloved... It says, “**Grace...and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**” (1:2) Now I want you to know this, that you can’t have just peace from God apart from peace with Jesus Christ. In other words, Jesus, and we’re going to see this, is the instrument of reconciling you to God so that you can have peace with God. And so if you’re listening to this program and you don’t know who Jesus Christ is; maybe you’re listening to this program and you’re a Muslim and you are curious about what Christians believe and maybe you want to know, are we really the enemies that many people are saying we are in the Muslim

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faith because we're friends with Jews. Is that true? Maybe you're just somebody that hasn't been brought up with any kind of a religious orientation at all and you know about God and there's a hunger inside of you, a longing for the spiritual because you know that everything is not just physical and everything is not just mental, but there's a spiritual part of your being and there's that longing. Well I want you to know that when you have peace with God that peace has to come from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, because Jesus is the means of you coming to peace with God. It's not that God has moved, but it's the fact that man has walked away from God or man has been born in all sorts of darkness and because of that darkness, man doesn't really really know God then there's that void inside, and that void can go away and you can have peace with God and you're going to see how. You be patient now and you sit with me every day and study the Word of God. And as you and I study together the Word of God, which is alive and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, will become a discerner of your thoughts and of your heart and it will begin to show you; it'll begin to open you up to truth and it's going to be wonderful. Well after this what he does is he goes into a eulogy of praise. A eulogy is just all of a sudden he is blessing God. He is overwhelmed with who God is and what God has done in Christ Jesus. And so what happens in verse 3 all the way through verse 14, it's one continuous sentence. It's kind of like D.L. Moody the great evangelist of years ago that was used so mightily to turn around America and to impact England. That great evangelist was an uneducated man. I mean he had no education. And when he went and he spoke at Harvard the students began to laugh at him and mock him because he was uneducated. But after that second meeting all of a sudden they sat up and they took notice. He called them on the carpet because they were snobs. They thought you know of all the people in the world we are the intellectuals and they were looking down their nose at this man. Well when D.L. Moody wrote he wrote in one continuous sentence. He didn't capitalize. He didn't

put in periods. He just wrote. And yet God used that man so mightily. And it would be that man too, that would come forth with this eulogy, this praise that comes from the very depths of your being that is loaded with truth, with doctrine, and doctrine is not something that is dirty. It's not something that is unspiritual. Doctrine is teaching. Doctrine is the foundation of the way that you live because you live according to how you think. And so what you see here he says **“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.” (1:3)** Now what I want you to do is I want you to watch every phrase of **“in Christ”** or **“in Him”** and this is another key repeated phrase. I mean this is what the book of Ephesians is all about, who you are in Christ. Now hang on because you're about to see something that literally blows the socks off of you. I mean, just all of a sudden, makes your hair stand on end and your mouth drop open, in absolute awe, I mean you're just stunned, stunned by truth, because listen to what he says. He says **“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.” (1:3)** So put a cloud around it. Now I put a red cloud around it and then I colored it red on the inside and the yellow over in. So I kind of made it a yellow and red thing inside of a cloud. **“...In Christ, just...,”** now here's what blows your socks off, **“...just as He...,”** He who? He God, **“...chose us...,”** us who? **(1:4a)** Us believers, those **“...who are faithful in Christ Jesus.” (1:1b)** **“Just as He chose us in Him...,”** in whom? In Christ. So you mark **“in Him”** again. And it says, **“...before the foundation of the world...” (1:4b)** Now that's what ought to blow your socks off. What God just said is the most incredible thing. That before there were ever six billion people on planet earth, before there was one man, before there was one woman on the face of this earth, before there was an earth, before God spoke and brought the world into existence, God, in His sovereignty, in His omniscience, chose you. He chose me. He chose Paul. He chose every single believer **“...in Christ Jesus.”**



(1:1b) Oh! What does that mean? That means that Christ, God knew that Jesus Christ was going to come and die on a cross before He ever made the world. Well if Jesus is going to come and He’s going to die on a cross, and you’re going to understand all this. So if it’s new to you, just hang on. If it’s old, you’ll understand what I’m saying. But he’s saying, “**...before the foundation of the world....**” (1:4b) God chose you in Christ. If He chose you in Christ and [grace and peace come to you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.] (Paraphrase, 1:2) And whenever I do the Lord Jesus Christ, I just take my body and use it in the symbol of a cross. So before God ever crucified Jesus and before He ever created the world, God knew that He was going to create you and that He was going to choose you in Jesus, before the foundation of the world. Are you important? Oh my gosh! You are so important. You are so significant. You aren’t lost among the six billion plus people of all the universe. God knows you. He knows you intimately. He chose you in Christ. He knew when you would be born. He knew when you would be born again. He knows when you’re going to die. He knows where you are going to go when you die, because you have grace and peace from God the Father. So it says, “**Just as He chose us [in Him] in Him before the foundation of the world....**” (1:4a) Well, one of things that you’re going to see, is you need to mark time phrases so you would put a clock, a little green clock. It’ll tell you this on your study guide, over the word “before”. Are you significant? Oh my goodness. You say you can’t believe it. That’s all right, you will; stay with me.