

SRMBC Family Bible Study

OVERCOMER

WHAT DO YOU ALLOW TO DEFINE YOU?

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Session 3 You Are Chosen

The degree of excitement increases with the seriousness of the purpose for which a person is chosen. Neighborhood kickball may be a big deal at the moment, but it hardly compares to being chosen to deliver the keynote address at your college commencement. The significance of being chosen also increases with the importance of the person making the selection. When that Person is the Holy Creator God of the universe, the significance of being chosen is beyond our imagination.

Watch Movie Clip: *You Are Chosen* (4:09)

The backstory of Principal Olivia Brooks and young Hannah runs deeper than this brief clip can convey. Seizing a moment to check in on Hannah and everything spinning in her life gives Olivia an open door to present the Gospel. As Hannah wrestles with feelings of abandonment toward her earthly father, Olivia explains the great lengths that her Heavenly Father went to in redeeming her. Miraculously, Hannah receives Jesus

Group Discussion. What part of part of Olivia's Gospel presentation stands out most to you?



With everything spinning in Hannah's life, Principal Olivia finds an open door to present the Gospel. As Hannah wrestles with feelings of abandonment toward her earthly father, Olivia explains the great lengths that her Heavenly Father went to in redeeming her.

Questions

- What part of Olivia's Gospel presentation stands out most to you?
- In what ways do you feel Hannah's heart was prepared to receive the Gospel?
- How confident do you feel in presenting Christ to someone? (Give yourself a score of 1 to 10).

How confident do you feel presenting the Gospel to someone?

Read II Chron 3:1 – 4, 8 – 9, 14 – 17

1. What was the purpose(s) for Solomon building the Temple – particularly the Most Holy Place?

The Holy Temple

- To provide a Dwelling/Resting Place for the Spirit of the Lord.
- A meeting place for Worship/Praise and Prayer for the people of God
- A place to make Confession of sin and give offerings to the Lord.

The Holy of Holies

- To House the 10 commandments/ The Law of God.
 - To provide a place of intimacy for the High Priest to commune with God.
 - To present a blood offering for the Atonement for Sin and come close to the Mercy Seat of God.
2. The two exterior columns (**Jachim** means “He will establish”. **Boaz** means “Strength is within Him”) were a prominent feature of the Temple. What did the pillars mean to the Israelites? What does this mean for Christians today?

- The column names Jachin (“He will establish”) and Boaz (“Strength is within Him”).
- The Pillars were a physical reminder that is God that established Israel is His Strength.
- It is God who chooses, saves and strengthens. He does that through His salvation.
- Instead of a Temple dwelling place for God, Jesus is called “Emanuel” – “God is with us”.
- Christ’s Death tore the veil of temple – giving us access to God.

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone. (Eph. 2:19 – 20)

In Christ we are established as God’s people, clothed in His Righteousness and Strength. Christ’s Birth brought God’s full presence to reside with us. That’s why Jesus is Immanuel “God is with us.” (Matt. 1:23). Christ’s death tore the curtain of the Holy of holies in the temple, giving us full access to God, inviting us to be established as God’s people, clothed in His strength.

3. What does it mean to you that the God who created you wants to be right here with you? How does His presence give you strength?
- **I am Honored, Humbled** – I feel special – because God wants to be with me (Even though He knows me).
 - **I am Secure** – Even though everyone may Leave or desert me – God is always with me. (I am His).
 - **I Am Loved** – He Loves Me And I Can Trust That He Will Never Take His Love And Presence Away.
 - **I Am Empowered** – The Same Power That Raised Jesus From The Dead Is In Me And Gives the Strength To What I Can’t Do On My Own.

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? (1 Cor 6:19)

Read John 3:16 – 17

4. What words or phrases resonate most with you? Why?
- **God so loved** – The fact that God so loves **me** – 1st I am grateful, valuable – and I love me (How can I not love **me** – whom **God loves**).

- **He Gave His Only Son** – God's Love motivated Him to give me his very best – His Son. I can trust Him to give me whatever else I need.
 - **Shall Not Perish** – O what a comfort – 1st for those loved ones (Dad, Mom, Wife, Friends...) but most for me – **that death is not final**. PTL!!!
 - **Everlasting Life** – O, what a joy and peace I have because I life everlasting. I have Joy for Today because my eternal future is secure.
 - **God did not send His Son into the world to condemn** – Even though I am truly guilty of sin – In Christ, God does not condemn me (He will convict and correct but never condemn Rom 8:1).
 - **But that the world through Him might be saved** – Through Jesus: **His suffering, His blood, His death** on the Cross and **His Resurrection** is what saves me. This salvation is available for/to the whole world.
5. Compare Ephesians 3:16 – 17 with John 3:16. Describe the dimensions of God's Love for you.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

[That you] ...may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; (Eph. 3:18 – 19a)

- For God so loved the world – The **Width** of God's Love.
- He gave His only begotten Son – The **Depth** of God's Love.
- Whoever believes in Him should not perish – The **Height** of God's Love.
- But have everlasting life – The **Length** of God's Love.

Read Ephesians 2:1 – 10

6. Ephesians 2:1 – 3 describes identities rooted in sin instead of the Lord. Verses 4 – 10 describe what it means to be chosen by God? According to this passage, **how** does God save people?
- **He Made [Us] Alive, Who Were Dead In Trespasses And Sins** – We are regenerated by His Spirit – not from what we do.
 - **But God, Who Is Rich In Mercy** – His Mercy - Not giving us what our sins deserve (Death, Eternal Separation and Punishment from God).
 - **His Great Love With Which He Loved Us** – He is the One loved us first – even while we were disobedient to Him (I John 4:19).
 - **By Grace Through Faith In Jesus Christ** – His Grace giving us a Salvation that we don't deserve. All because of the Work of Christ.
 - **By A Free Gift – All His Doing** – A Precious Invaluable gift – That is given without merit.

7. Read through vv. 5 – 10 again and identify specific reasons God saves people.

Eph. 2:5 – 10

- Even When We Were Dead In Trespasses, Made Us Alive Together With Christ (By Grace You Have Been Saved), And Raised Us Up Together.
- Made Us Sit Together In The Heavenly Places In Christ Jesus.
- That In The Ages To Come He Might Show The Exceeding Riches Of His Grace In His Kindness Toward Us In Christ Jesus.
- For We Are His Workmanship, Created In Christ Jesus For Good Works, Which God Prepared Beforehand That We Should Walk In Them.

Reasons God Saves

- For Unity With Christ And With Each Other (To Worship, Serve, Proclaim, Thanksgiving Pray, Enjoy God's Blessings - Together).
- To Place Us At His Heavenly Table With Him And His Son Jesus Christ.
- To Have A People That He Can Enjoy And Bless And Display His Glorious Grace For The Praise Of His Glory.
- That Everyone Will Know That Salvation Only Comes From The Lord And Is Free To All.
- To Do The Work Of The Lord – That He Has Created And Pre-determined For Us To Do (We

8. What are some of the good works you believe God has created you to do? In what ways can you be more about your Father's Business (Cf. Luke 2:49)?

- **Seeking God** – His Word, His Will, In Worship.
- **Serving God** – With His/My Gifts, In His Church and For His Cause/Gospel
- **Serving God's People/Creation** – Sharing the Gospel, Serving my Family, Community, Workplace.

Overcomer's Prayer

Glorious Father, I thank You for Your unconditional love. Thank You for sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Lord God, I thank You for the precious gift of eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Father, I dedicate my life to you in every area. You have a plan for me in every area of life.

Empower me with Your Holy Spirit To Live for You.

I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.