

Renewing Our Vision for 2021
“Knowing My Heavenly Father”
Ephesians

Since Christmas: Focus on the Spirit- HIGHLIGHTS

Galatians 5 Freedom in Christ and the Spirit-led Life

Romans 8 Living Life Depending upon the Holy Spirit

Our Teacher!

Our Challenge to Control How We are Thinking

Our Life as a Product of the Spirit Re-Producing Jesus in Us

Ephesians 2:1-6 God’s Transformation of Our Lives in Christ

The Before and After Picture

TODAY: Understanding God as Our Father

The Heart of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

1. God is Our Father, through Jesus, and has now accomplished for us what He intended before He created the world. (Eph. 1:1-6)

- He has already blessed us in every way spiritually possible even though we do not see it.
- We cannot see what God has done because we still live in physical bodies blinded to the spiritual realm that exists all around us. (Eph. 2:6)
- His design for the blessings we now enjoy were in His mind before He created the world.
- His intention for us was always for us to be holy and blameless in His presence as His children.

- He never intended that we would be damaged by sin, evil and death, but rather safe and beyond the assault of evil.
- As a result of what evil has done to us, He designed (predestined) a path to adoption to restore His intentions for us as His children.
- His design for our adoption reflects what He originally intended.
- His grace is glorious and worthy of our praise.
- Everything we now enjoy is through Jesus, His Beloved Son.

2. Next Week: Jesus, God’s Beloved Son, solved all problems created by evil in order to restore God’s original intentions for us.

3. Two Weeks: Because we believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit is given to us to guarantee completion of God’s redemptive plan for us.

Embracing God as our Father

- **Human nature tends to question God’s intentions whenever things do not go as we think they should.**

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

- **Do we know God well enough to defend Him against assaults on His intentions in the face of evil and death?**
- **I blame the Devil, Evil and Sin for all the stuff that hurts in this life.**

God is my Father, and I am always safe and secure knowing His intentions are for my good no matter what I am seeing or experiencing.