

SAINTS

By God's Design
January 12, 2020

Introduction: Have you ever pondered the direction of your life? “Why do I exist? Why was I created? What is my purpose? What was I designed to do?” I believe that every believer is a work of art made in the image of God – crafted, formed and beautifully made for a purpose – designed by God for a specific calling. Yet, the vast majority are unable to name their God design calling. And because of lack of identification and naming, we miss a huge opportunity to make a more meaningful contribution with our life. As Ephesians as our foundation, we boldly go where most people fail to go – discovering the person God created us to be. It ought to be fun and challenging journey.

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1:1-4

I. Our Journey

¹⁵ *Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when **each part** is working properly, **makes the body grow** so that it **builds itself up in love** (Ephesians 4:15–16).*

II. To the Saints at Lakehoma....

*Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, **To the saints** who are in Ephesus, and **are faithful** in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 1:1).*

A. Saints: Holy ones, dedicated, devoted and consecrated.

B. Faithful: One who is trustworthy and shows steadfast affection and allegiance to another.

III. Preparing to Meet God

A. Living out of a false self.

¹ *And **you were dead** in the trespasses and sins ² in which **you once walked**, following the **course of this world**, following the prince of the **power of the air, the spirit that is now at work** in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom **we all once lived** in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and **were** by nature **children of wrath**, like the rest of mankind (Ephesians 2:1–3).*

B. Living out of one's true self.

³ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed us** in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as **he chose us** in him **before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵*

he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which **he has blessed us** in the Beloved (Ephesians 1:3–6).

⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For **by grace you have been saved through faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ **not a result of works**, so that no one may boast (Ephesians 2:7–9).

IV. God-Designed Saints

For **we are his workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus **for good works**, which God prepared beforehand, that we should **walk in them** (Ephesians 2:10).

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; **male and female he created them** (Genesis 1:27).

¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. ¹⁶ **Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me**, when as yet there was none of them (Psalm 139:14, 16).

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I. To the Saints at Lakehoma.... (*Ephesians 1:1*)

- A. _____: Holy ones, dedicated, devoted and consecrated.
- B. _____: One who is trustworthy and shows steadfast affection and allegiance to another.

II. Our Journey (*Ephesians 4:15–16*)

III. Preparing to Meet God

- A. Living out of a _____. (*Ephesians 2:1–3*)
- B. Living out of one's _____. (*Ephesians 1:3–6*)

IV. God-Designed Saints (*Ephesians 2:10*) (*Genesis 1:27*) (*Psalms 139:14, 16*)