



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

We Are A Family Growing in Christ September 12-14, 2020

(Ephesians 1:3-14) ³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, ⁹ he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. ¹¹ In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

1. What effect, if any, did the “safer at home” order have on your family relationships? Offer some thoughts as to why the time at home proved so difficult for some families.
2. Explain how sin is the “great separator.”
3. What does it mean to you that God chose you to be his child before the creation of the world? Why is it so important to know that God chose you “in Christ.”

4. What does the word “predestine” mean? Describe of how your life has been “predestined” by God, especially as it pertains to your place in God's family here at Mount Olive.
5. Why and when did God adopt you? Why is it significant that all of us, male and female are adopted “to sonship through Jesus Christ”?
6. Agree or disagree and why? God's plan to save us is a great mystery.
7. What's the significance of being marked in Christ with a seal?
8. What guarantee do you have that heaven is your inheritance?
9. Ephesians 1:7 says we have redemption through Jesus' blood. Verse 14 suggests that we are still waiting for our redemption. How can both be true?
10. How can we members of our Mount Olive Family help each other grow in Christ?