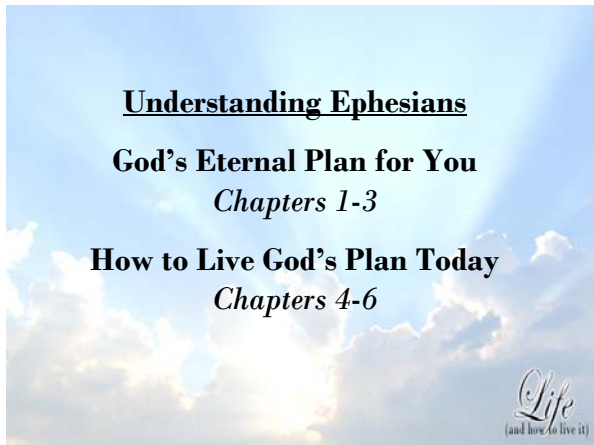


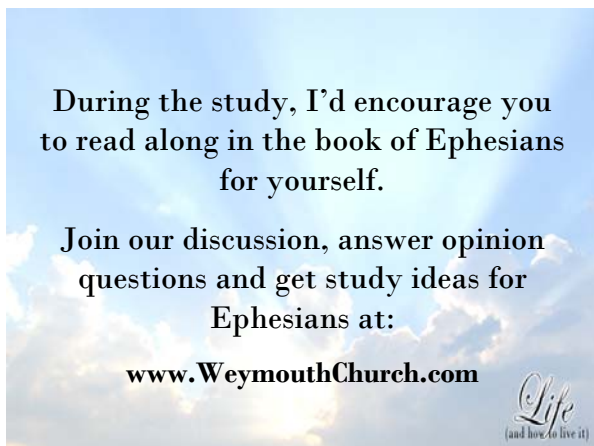
The book of Ephesians explains:

- God's plan and our place in it.
- The purpose for human life.
- What is involved in becoming a follower of Jesus.
- The mission we are called to serve.



Today we begin a six-week study of this book of the Bible.

1. How to Fulfill Your Destiny
2. How to Join God's Family
3. How to Live a Worthy Life
4. How to Change Your Character
5. How to Honor God in Relationships
6. How to Accomplish Your Mission



How to Fulfill Your Destiny
Ephesians 1

“Destiny” or “Predestiny” is an important concept in the Bible. It refers to God's master plan for us – the intention He had when He created us.



What Is My Destiny?

1. My destiny is to be holy and without fault in God's eyes. (vs. 4)
2. My destiny is to be adopted into God's family through Jesus. (vs. 5)

Life
(and how to live it)

3. My destiny is to be submitted to the authority of Jesus. (vs. 10)
4. My destiny is to receive a heavenly inheritance from God. (vs. 11)
5. My destiny is to praise and honor God with my life. (vs. 14)

Life
(and how to live it)

But there is a problem.

Most people don't fulfill their destiny – they've taken the wrong road, leading the opposite direction from God's perfect plan. What happened?

Life
(and how to live it)



God's Plan to Restore Us

1. Purchase our freedom and forgive our sins. (vs. 7-8)
2. Reveal the plan to us. (vs. 9)
3. Seal us with the Holy Spirit, as proof that we have been restored in His plan. (vs. 14)

Life
(and how to live it)

***That all sounds great,
but what do I do?***

1. Tell God you are ready to fulfill your destiny.

(review each of the five areas of "destiny" listed in prayer to God)

Life
(and how to live it)

2. Put your faith in Jesus Christ to save you: *He who was the Suffering Savior is today the Living Lord.*

3. Ask God to forgive your sins and to help you begin a new kind of life.

Life
(and how to live it)

Conclusion:
Ephesians 1:15-23

Next week we will discover how God's grace enables us to fulfill our destiny, and we'll start looking at practical life changes that God wants us to make when we join His family.

Life
(and how to live it)