

# WHO AM I?

Ephesians



Lesson 2

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Student Lesson

## A HEAVENLY INHERITANCE

### Open it

1. Describe your dream house.

### Daily Devotions

Day 1 — Today's Theme: Explore It

Read Ephesians 1:7-14.

2. Where can we find redemption?
3. What does this redemption unite?
4. What have we obtained as Christians, and how can we be certain of it?
5. When were we sealed with the promised Holy Spirit?

## Day 2 — Today's Theme: We are Redeemed

### Read Ephesians 1:7-8.

Stories of redemption are some of the best and most impactful stories we hear. Redemption stories are what make some testimonies so impactful. Hearing stories about how someone was in such a bad place and then seeing where they are now, we might never guess that they were the same person. It makes us see that no one is too far gone to be redeemed.

Mainstream media knows this, which is why they use the story of redemption so much (often called a redemption arc). A redemption arc is a literary term for a type of character development in which a bad or morally gray character turns into a good person by the end of the story. They redeem their worst sins through their actions in the story's resolution.

There is no shortage of redemption arcs in the media. We see it present in any and all types of stories. We see it in children's stories like Gru's change of heart in *Despicable Me*, where he goes from an evil villain to a lovable hero. We see it on TV with Steve Harrington from *Stranger Things*, where he starts off as a bully but slowly becomes everyone's favorite hero. And we see it in huge genre smashing blockbusters like Darth Vader's return to the light side in *Return of the Jedi*.

As great as all these stories of redemption can be, none of them come close to the true redemption that we can all have in Jesus. In this passage, Paul tells us "we have redemption through [Jesus'] blood." We were all lost in our sins at one point in our lives and without Jesus' ultimate sacrifice and resurrection, we would still be lost and eternally condemned to separation from God.

**6. How have you experienced or seen this redemption that Paul is talking about?**

**7. How does knowing that you can have this redemption change the way you live your life?**

### Day 3 — Today's Theme: It's All Part of the Plan

#### **Read Ephesians 1:9-10.**

When I was working in plumbing, I would work with a lot of plumbers who were much smarter than me. Most times they would start working on something and I would have no idea what we were doing. In spite of not knowing what was happening, I would still listen to whatever they would ask me to do. As the job would progress and we installed more pipes, I would start to see a clearer picture of what we were doing. What at first seemed like a madman doing random things quickly morphed into the final product of our work. The plumber DID have a plan and we weren't just putting in random pipes.

Similarly, God has a plan. Now to be fair, the difference between the plumber's plans and God's plans are HUGE, but we can still see the similarities. At times God's plans can seem like they don't make much sense, and we may not know where they're going, but we can still trust in Him. Much like when the plumber was working and I had no idea what he was doing, I still trusted that he knew what he was doing, because he is much smarter than I am. The same can be said about God. We may not see the full picture, but we can trust in Him and know that He's thought about every detail and has picked the best possible way.

**8. What is an experience that you've had that you still don't understand why God had you go through it?**

**9. Do you believe that God has a plan for everything? Why or Why not?**

**10. Do you often struggle with trusting God's plan? Why or why not?**

## Day 4 — Today's Theme: A Heavenly Inheritance

### Read Ephesians 1:11-14.

Whenever I hear the word inheritance, my brain reminds me of John 14:2-3 (ESV), *"In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also."*

From a young age this verse has been brought to life for me by the song "Big House" by Audio Adrenaline. The song sets the stage that no matter where you are in life, God has a place for you in heaven. The artist then invites us all to "Come and go with me To my Father's house." He then does such a great job at visualizing what heaven could be when He says, "It's a big, big house, With lots and lots a room, A big, big table, With lots and lots of food, A big, big yard, Where we can play football, A big, big house, It's my Father's house."

I have always loved these visuals. A table full of food, a luxury suite in heaven, and playing football for all of eternity? Oh yeah, sign me up.

The reality is, we do not know what heaven will be like, but we know that through Jesus' death and resurrection and our faith in Him that we will get to experience eternal life with Him, and that's what's most important. God has sealed this promise for us by giving us the Holy Spirit.

### 11. What do you picture heaven to be like?

### 12. How do you experience the Holy Spirit in your everyday life?

### 13. God has promised us an inheritance one day, but what motivates you today and every day?