

SERMON MESSAGE FOR JANUARY 12/13, 2019

Pastor Dennis Keating

PILGRIM

Enjoying Our Provisions in Christ

Ephesians 1:3-14 (p. 997)

OUR GREATEST → We stand before God _____.

BLESSING

WE HAVE BEEN ...

- _____ for holiness. (1:4; Col. 2:10)
- _____ into His family. (1:4-5)
- _____ from sin. (1:7; Rom. 5:20; Rom. 8:1)
- _____ about the future. (1:8-10; Phil. 2:10-11)
- _____ an inheritance. (1:10; Num. 23:19)
- _____ for eternity. (1:13-14; John 14:2-3)

LIFE LESSONS:

1. Focus on _____ esteem and not _____-esteem.
2. _____ and _____ these blessings.
3. _____ God the Father. (1 Peter 2:9)

Have a question or comment about the Pilgrim series?

Email your question or comment about the series to pilgrim@efcc.org.

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FROM JANUARY 12/13, 2019 SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SERMON-BASED LIFE GROUPS

Personal preparation: Read the passage, review your outline, and think through the questions. With your group, watch the video blog together.

CONNECTING

1. What two or three spiritual blessings are you particularly grateful for this week? (v. 3)

GROWING

2. Which two or three (from the list of six points on your outline) of the things that are true of those who are in Christ have been the most meaningful for you think about and personalize this week? Why?
3. What will it mean for you to live to the praise of the glory of God's grace this week?

SHARING

4. What is one area in your walk with God for which you would like your group to pray for you this week?

Pilgrim Week 2 Memory Verse

"Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes."
Ephesians 1:4 (NLT)

January 12/13, 2019
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(For Scripture references and fill-in the blanks)

OUR GREATEST BLESSING: We stand before God **perfect in Christ**.

"For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified." Hebrews 10:14

WE HAVE BEEN ...

- **Chosen** for holiness. (1:4; Col. 2:10)

"... in Him you have been made complete;" Colossians 2:10

- **Adopted** into His family. (1:4-5)

- **Redeemed** from sin. (1:7; Rom. 5:20; Rom. 8:1)

"Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more." Romans 5:20

"... there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:1

- **Informed** about the future. (1:8-10; Phil. 2:10-11)

"... (history) is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."
Shakespeare

"... at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." Philippians 2:10-11

- **Assured** an inheritance. (1:10; Num. 23:19)

"God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent; has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" Numbers 23:19

- **Secured** for eternity. (1:13-14; John 14:2-3)

"In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also." John 14:2-3

LIFE LESSONS:

1. Focus on **Christ** esteem and not **self**-esteem.

"God doesn't like us better if we become more spiritual as His love is not conditional upon our behavior." John MacArthur, adapted

2. **Think about** and **personalize** these blessings.

"Faith is the road, but communion with Jesus is the well from which the pilgrim drinks."
Charles Spurgeon

3. **Speak well of** God the Father. (1 Peter 2:9)

"But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;" 1 Peter 2:9