

## Chosen for the Journey

### 2 Peter 1:1-11

#### Introduction

Believers are elected. In other words, they have been chosen to be part of the family of God. The knowledge that we have been chosen for the journey should influence how we view spiritual growth. Once we know and understand the principle of election, that knowledge should also create a deeper understanding of God's character and of His unending love for us. We can be confident that God does indeed act with purpose; nothing He does is by chance. Therefore, we have been elected for a purpose. We have been elected to fulfill a job, to complete a task, to accomplish a mission. Consequently we should have a desire to grow and realize exactly what that mission is.

As we come to know God's purpose in our election, we should be moved to spiritual service. We testify to our election as we pursue spiritual growth and development of spiritual character. Our attitudes and action can serve as validation of Christ's work in us. As we exercise confidence in our election, we can be assured of spiritual stability in our pursuit of spiritual growth and development of spiritual character. In 2 Peter 1:10 we are instructed to be diligent in confirming our calling and election so that we won't stumble. If we are diligent to confirm our calling and election by being spiritually useful, we will experience spiritual victory and we will end our lives victoriously rather than in defeat.

Our election is a reminder that we have been chosen for the journey and it is the basis for fulfilling God's purpose. We have been prepared for spiritual usefulness and reward. It is our responsibility to pursue spiritual growth in order to maximize what God has already placed within us, and to be useful spiritually as we prepare for our triumphant trip to heaven.

#### Getting Started

1. What impact has this series had on you so far? Does spiritual growth for you look different now compared to what it looked like when the series began? How so. Share your reflections with your group.
2. Define election in your own words. How would you explain election to a new Christian? What new information did you learn from the sermon about election?

#### Let's Get Personal

1. What is the significance of being chosen? Does feeling chosen matter to most people? Why or why not?
2. Share with your group members a time you were chosen and how that made you feel.
3. Has a belief that you have been chosen for a purpose motivated you to pursue purpose? Why or why not?
4. Our response to our election is a spiritual witness to others. Share an example of someone who you believe is pursuing his or her purpose. What are some characteristics or habits you'd like to see in yourself?

#### Take the Next Step

1. We testify to our election by the evidence of our spiritual growth. What commitment do you need to make to uphold spiritual growth as a priority?
2. What will it look like for you to pursue purpose based on your understanding and appreciation of being chosen?
3. Want to dig deeper? Read and discuss these verses: Ephesians 2:8-10, Jude 1:24, 1 Peter 2:11-12, 1 Peter 3:15-16, Romans 8:17, 2 Timothy 2:12, 1 John 5:9-12

#### Renew Your Mind

*"Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble..." 2 Peter 1:10*