

**ENCOURAGEMENT**  
**{The Blessings of Knowing Christ}**  
**Ephesians 1:1-14; 2:6-7**  
**Pastor "Coach" Buster Reeves**  
**Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

**The basis of our  
spiritual blessings in Christ  
is our being recipients of the  
GRACE and PEACE of God**

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*  
**Ephesians 1:2 [HCSB]**

**These are GIFTS  
from which the  
SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS flow**

*Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens.*  
**Ephesians 1:3 [HCSB]**

- **The possibility of a NEW life  
and IDENTITY**

*And you were dead in your trespasses and sins...*  
**Ephesians 2:1ff [HCSB]**

- **The possibility of a  
PREDESTINED life**

*For He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love He predestined us to be adopted through Jesus Christ for Himself, according to His favor and will, to the praise of His glorious grace that He favored us with in the Beloved.*  
**Ephesians 1:4-6 [HCSB]**

- **The possibility of a PLEDGE  
that guarantees  
your INHERITANCE**

*When you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and when you believed in Him, you were also sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. He is the down payment of our inheritance, for the redemption of the possession, to the praise of His glory.*  
**Ephesians 1:13-14 [HCSB]**

- The possibility of a POSITION of **POWER** for the exercise of **GRACE** and **WORKS**

*Together with Christ Jesus He also raised us up and seated us in the heavens so that in the coming ages He might display the immeasurable riches of His grace through His kindness to us in Christ Jesus.*

**Ephesians 2:6-7 [HCSB]**

- The possibility of a **PURPOSE** for this life that makes **SENSE**

*We have also received an inheritance in Him, predestined according to the purpose of the One who works out everything in agreement with the decision of His will, so that we who had already put our hope in the Messiah might bring praise to His glory.*

**Ephesians 1:11-12 [HCSB]**