

In today's passage, Ephesians 1:3-6, the Apostle Paul, amidst hardships and persecution in prison, begins his letter to the Ephesian church with the words "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." This phrase continues until verse 14, constituting the longest sentence in the Bible in the original Greek. Paul praises God without pauses or periods, urging believers to praise God for the spiritual blessings given through Jesus Christ.

In the latter part of verse 3, Paul reveals the reason for such praise. He explains that God, "in Christ," has blessed believers with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms. These blessings are not material or temporary but eternal and spiritually abundant. Paul, writing from a Roman prison, encourages believers to praise God despite their circumstances.

First, The Blessing of Being Chosen from the Beginning

In verse 4, Paul emphasizes that God chose and predestined believers before the foundation of the world. This divine choice is an expression of God's unconditional and absolute love. Understanding this love fills believers with gratitude and praise. The knowledge that God chose and loved them even before their birth or actions evokes a sense of awe and thanksgiving.

Second, The Blessing of Being God's Children

In verse 5, Paul reveals the second blessing: being adopted as God's children through Christ Jesus. Believers, through faith in Jesus, become children of God, experiencing a transformation in their identity. This adoption grants the privilege of communion with the Father, the ability to make requests, and the inheritance of God's kingdom. Additionally, believers are sanctified and empowered by the Holy Spirit to become more like God.

Third, The Blessing of Praising God

The third and final blessing, found in verse 6, is that believers, residing in Christ, are enabled to praise God's glorious grace. Praising God becomes the purpose and duty of human life, regardless of one's vocation or circumstances. The ultimate goal is to glorify God, recognizing that life's true purpose lies in praising and glorifying Him.

Bible**Memorization****A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

"Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting." (Psalms 147:1)

**Bible
Reading**

12/4(Mon)	12/5(Tue)	12/6(Wed)	12/7(Thur)	12/8(Fri)	12/9(Sat)	12/10(Sun)
1 Cor 12-14	1 Cor 15-16, 2 Cor 1	2 Cor 2-5	2 Cor 6-9	2 Cor 10-12	2 Cor 13, Gal 1-3	Gal 4-6, Eph 1

QT**Quiet Time Passage**

12/4(Mon)	12/5(Tue)	12/6(Wed)	12/7(Thur)	12/8(Fri)	12/9(Sat)	12/10(Sun)
Colossians 2:1-15	Colossians 2:16-23	Colossians 3:1-11	Colossians 3:12-17	Colossians 3:18-25	Colossians 4:1-9	Colossians 4:10-18

**Sharing
Questions**

1. Share any insights or grace you have gained from today's passage.
2. Reflect on how the unconditional and absolute love of God impacts your life as a saved individual.
3. Consider the significance of God becoming your Father and how it affects you personally.
4. Reflect on the idea that the purpose of your saved life is to bring glory to God, and think about how you can apply this to your daily life.