



Sermon series: Ephesians: Together in Christ  
Text: Ephesians 1:1-2  
Delivered: August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
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## Orientation

“If you feel tired, discouraged, beat up, lonely, or confused, then welcome to Ephesians! Our souls need to see this description of the glorious grace of God. We need the gospel every day.” -Tony Merida

**Big Idea: The Christian life is about orienting all of life around Jesus.**

**We are called to orient our lives around what God \_\_\_\_\_ for us in Jesus.**

1. The Gospel is the \_\_\_\_\_ of what God has done for us in Jesus.
2. God's done always \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ our doing.

**We are called to orient our lives around \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus.**

1. The Christian \_\_\_\_\_ to another world.
2. The Christian lives as an \_\_\_\_\_ in this world.

**We are called to orient our lives around \_\_\_\_\_ we \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus.**

1. Jesus gives us a new \_\_\_\_\_.
2. We are meant to \_\_\_\_\_ our new identity is who we are.

**We are called to orient our lives around \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus.**

1. We are given a new relationship with \_\_\_\_\_.
2. We are given a new relationship with \_\_\_\_\_.

What are some of the ways God has used the Bible to impact and change your life? Have those things happened rapidly or more gradually?

If you had to explain to someone what the gospel is in a simple and short way, how would you explain it?

What is one of your favorite aspects of the gospel? What depths of the gospel have caused you to be even more amazed at what God has done for you?

What are some practical ways that you can point to of how the gospel has empowered and motivated you to live differently?



*Do you agree with the idea that in some sense as a Christian you are from the future? What type of impact should that have on your life?*

*Where in your own life do you feel the most pressure to blend in or fit in? What are the beliefs or ways of living that are challenging for us hold onto in our own day?*

*What's one of your favorite ways that the Bible describes who you are (your new identity) in Jesus? What type of impact does this have on your life as you seek to live like it's true?*

*How important do you think gathering with, serving with, and belonging to a local church is?*

*What are the practices in your own life that help you to reorient your life around Jesus on a regular and weekly basis?*

*Challenge: Take some time and read through Ephesians this week and write down all the different ways Paul speaks about the Christian's identity and all the different ways Paul describes the church.*

**Further Resources:**

- [Watch Introduction to Ephesians by The Bible Project](#)
- [Listen to "Ephesians" by the Streetlights on Spotify](#)
- [Read Ephesians For You by Richard Coekin](#)