

Who are You?

Set the Stage

- How would you introduce yourself to people you are not too familiar with? How about to people you are familiar with?*
- Just as God started with what was most important and what He wanted us to remember, we too would start with what is most important and what we want people to know about us.

-Read Romans 1:1

- Often we skip right by the introductions to get on to the better part of the books. The introduction is there for a reason.
- It is just as inspired as the rest of the book.
- There is something very important in the intro and something we can apply to our own lives.
- Paul starts the book by introducing himself to people that are not familiar with him. He starts with what is most important about himself.
- What is the first thing he mentions about himself?*
- Jesus is the first thing he mentions. He begins with Jesus and his relationship with him.
- Is this true of us?* Is Jesus in the forefront of our minds, our hearts, and our conversations?
- Would He come out in your introduction?
- Is He part of what we want people to know about us?
- Or would we rather hide it or hope they don't ask?

Taking it Further

Paul begins with the fact that he is a servant of Jesus Christ. Who are you? Are you a...

1. A Servant of Jesus Christ

A. We are bought with a price.

-He begins with the truth that he is a servant.

-A servant - One who is completely subject to the will of his master. One who is completely at the disposal of his master.

-Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. You are bought with a price.

-Jesus paid the HIGH price to purchase your freedom!

-Ephesians 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

-Jesus freed you from sin, satan, and separation from God.

-Why do we serve?

-No one makes themselves a Christian. We are all born a slave of the devil and are freed by Jesus Christ.

-We are not free to do whatever we want.

-Do you realize just who you are?

-You are of the highest value!

B. We are bought as a possession.

-Because we are bought with a price, we no longer belong to ourselves. We belong to God.

-We are a servant of Jesus Christ.

-You are either a servant of sin and Satan or a servant of Jesus Christ. When you are not serving Jesus you are serving Satan.

-To be a servant you must surrender your will to His. Your rights to His rights.

-You have no right to do what you want with your body and life!

Paul moves next to the fact that he has been summoned by Jesus Christ. Who are you? Do you recognize that you have been...

2. Summoned by Jesus Christ

A. Chosen by God.

- Think about how God chooses.
- Paul was an enemy of Jesus. He hated Jesus, Christians, and the church. He killed and hurt people for identifying as a Christian.
- God chose His biggest enemy!
 - Why would God choose someone like this? What benefit is there?*
- Read Ephesians 1:3-6

B. Called by God.

- As sinners, we are born enemies of God. But God chooses and then calls His enemies. Then He works in our hearts, mind, and lives to change us to be like His Son.
- You may not be called as an apostle, but you are called as a disciple of or follower of Jesus.
- Do you realize that you are chosen and called by God?
 - Do the people around you realize that you have been chosen and called by God?*
- What has God called you to do? What should you be doing for him?* Definitely not hiding, embarrassed, unwilling.
- God's will is clear and known. We make it difficult and a mystery.
- Jesus said that if we love Him keep His commandments. Simply do what Scripture says.

Paul moves next to the fact that he is separated unto Jesus Christ. Who are you? Are you...

3. Separated unto Jesus Christ

A. Separated unto Jesus.

- Separated means to define, mark off with boundaries, select for a specific work.
- Separation means there is distinct difference.

- Before Paul was separated unto the law, and now the gospel. There was a huge change.
- When you come to Jesus, your life is going to be different in a good way.
- There should be a separating that occurs. Unto Jesus and from

- First we must be separated unto Jesus.
- This is first. Too often we will put it backwards.
- We think Christianity is simply separation from the world.
- This is legalism and religion. It misses the true heart and essence of following Jesus.

B. Separated from the world.

- Not isolated from the world. That is separation gone too far. But distinctly different from the world.

- Separation is about being distinctly different than the world.

- What would be some distinct differences between a Christian versus the world?*

Taking Your Next Step

1. Have you been captivated by Jesus?

-Paul was captivated by Jesus.

-Has He captivated you?

-Is He the master of your life?

-Is He the master of your thinking?

-Is He the master of all your events and activities.

2. Are you unashamed of Jesus?

-Are you unashamed to tell people you are a Christian?

-Does your life line up with who you say you are?

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