



EPHESIANS

We are Jesus' Church

What Gives God Great Pleasure



What Does It Mean to Have a God?

- Superior
- Smarter
- Has control
- Other
- Hope your God is good
- Bad god is disasterous



Ephesians 1:3-11

.³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. ⁴ Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.

⁵ God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.



Ephesians 1:3-11

⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. ⁷ He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. ⁸ He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

⁹ God has now revealed to us his mysterious plan regarding Christ, a plan to fulfill his own good pleasure. ¹⁰ And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ-- everything in heaven and on earth. ¹¹ Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan.



We Have a God with a Plan

Provision

Intimacy

Partnership

Eternally



Exodus 2:23-25

- Years passed, and ... the Israelites continued to groan under their burden of slavery. They cried out for help, and their cry rose up to God.²⁴ God heard their groaning, and he remembered his covenant promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.²⁵ He looked down on the people of Israel and knew it was time to act.



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Isaiah 11:1-5

Out of the stump of David's family will grow a shoot-- yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root.² And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.³ He will delight in obeying the LORD. He will not judge by appearance nor make a decision based on hearsay.⁴ He will give justice to the poor and make fair decisions for the exploited. The earth will shake at the force of his word, and one breath from his mouth will destroy the wicked.⁵ He will wear righteousness like a belt and truth like an undergarment.



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God sticks with his plan forever.

It gives him great pleasure to do so.



Invitation

- How have you noticed God's Provision, Intimacy, and Partnership in your life?
- Reflect on God's plan for you:
 - What has happened so far in your life with Jesus?
 - Remember times when God didn't give up on you.
 - What do you hope is coming next?
- Tell someone about God's plan for your life.

