

What Am I Doing Here? Part 1

The Greeting

Reference: **Ephesians 1:1-2**

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Paul starts this salutation by identifying himself as "**Paul**" the one who _____ this letter. Then he identifies his _____ as "*an apostle of Jesus Christ*". Then he states by whose _____ he has that apostolic position "*by the will of God*".

Question: Who is Paul exactly?

Answer: Paul was originally called _____ of Tarsus, born around AD1 in modern-day Turkey.
References: **Philippians 3:5-6; Acts 22:3; 8:3; 9:1-22; 13:9** (see screen)

Things to Point Out:

First, God can **use** _____ He chooses to **do** _____ He chooses.

Second, we should be motivated to _____ God just like Paul.

Reference: **Acts 20:19** (see screen)

Third, when a person becomes a Christian and commits their life to God they can and will accomplish so much for the _____ of _____.
Reference: **Philippians 1:12-14** (see screen)

Question: What does it mean to be an apostle of Jesus Christ?

Answer: First, the Greek word for Apostle is "Apostolos" which comes from the verb "Apostellein" which means "to send away", or "send _____". It started with Jesus Christ being sent by God to save the world.
Reference: **Hebrews 3:1-2** (see screen)

An apostle is someone that is _____ by _____ to speak God's word, to fulfill God's will, to reveal God, and in Jesus' case, to give eternal life.

References: **John 17:2-3; John 17:18; Matthew 10:40; Psalm 135:6** (see screen)

Things about God's will that people should understand:

First, God's will is always _____, **acceptable**, and _____.

Reference: **Romans 12:2** (see screen)

Second, while God's will is always good, acceptable, and perfect it can lead to _____.

References: **James 1:2-4; Isaiah 53:10; Colossians 1:9** (see screen)

Question: We know who Paul is, we know what Paul's position is, and we know that it was the will of God that he has this position so, what does that mean for us in general?

Answer: It means that we should _____ to what Paul has to say because he is speaking with the **authority of God**.

Question: Who are the saints in Ephesus?

Answer: Saints are people who have been _____ **from the world** and _____ **to the worship and service of God**.

Reference: **Philippians 1:1** (see screen)

Paul is writing to the Christians who live in a cesspool of beliefs, in a hodgepodge of people, not unlike many modern-day cities in the United States.

We as Christians, have been called to exist with God for eternity, and before we do we have been given the _____ of sharing that information with all of the world.

Reference: **Colossians 1:28** (see screen)

When Paul says to his readers "*Grace to you*", in essence, he is saying "I hope you have God's _____ because it is essential to being at _____ with God."

Reference: **Ephesians 6:23-24** (see screen)