

## **Digging Deeper: Ephesians 1:11–14**

Spiritual Blessings in Christ

### **Day One**

Pray. Read verse 11. In him (Christ) we were *also* chosen. Hallelujah! But let us not forget that it is *Christ* who is in the center of God's plan, and it is only *in relationship* to Christ that a meaningful future destiny exists. Read Romans 8:29–30 about the phrase “having been predestined.” Read Romans 8:28, Ephesians 3:10–11 and Hebrews 6:17 for more on “the purpose of God's will.”

### **Day Two**

Pray. Read verse 12. In the biblical setting, the phrase, “in order that we who were first to hope in Christ” (NIV) probably refers to those Jews who, like Paul, had become believers before many Gentiles had. What is the reward in this verse for being chosen and predestined? What does predestined mean regarding life today (human or other)?

### **Day Three**

Pray. Read verse 13a and b. The phrase, “And you also” (NIV) probably refers to most of the Ephesians, who were Gentiles. Isn't it inspiring to know that we (like the Ephesians) can be included in Christ when we hear the word of truth, the gospel of our salvation?

### **Day Four**

Pray. Read verse 13c. Having first believed, the Ephesians (who were Gentiles) were marked “in him” with a seal. In those days, what did individuals being marked with a seal denote?

### **Day Five**

Pray. Read verse 13d. What specifically is the promise of being “marked with the seal” mean to those who believe? Spend the day praying and meditating about the power of this promise, and inspire someone else to do the same.

### **Day Six**

Pray. Read verse 14. What does the promise in verse 13d guarantee? Read Romans 8:22–25 to further understand the “deposit” of the promised Holy Spirit. Refer to Romans 8:23 to help guide responses to the challenging situations you are faced with today, and may the peace of the Lord be with you always!