CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

*Kansas City, Missouri*

WEEKLY SIX-DAY DEVOTIONAL

# Already Clothed:

## *Everything We Need in Christ*

> *"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ."*
>
> **EPHESIANS 1:3 (NIV)**

*A six-day journey through Ephesians 1:1–14 — the blessings God placed in our hands the moment we came to Christ, and what it looks like to finally live as if we believe them.*


**Based on the sermon by Pastor André Singleton**

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WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15, 2026

DAY ONE

# ALREADY CLOTHED: EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING IN CHRIST

## SCRIPTURE READING

**EPHESIANS 1:3 (NIV)**

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.*

**EPHESIANS 6:10–11 (NIV)**

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.*

## DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Pastor Singleton opened Sunday with a picture most of us know from the screen: a hero whose father left him everything, yet who discovered that the inheritance was never the point. He was called to something bigger than his own comfort, and before he went out to meet that calling, he was clothed in what had been prepared for him. Then Pastor Singleton turned the picture toward us. When we accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, God does not hand us a starter kit and wish us luck. He has already blessed us "with every spiritual blessing in Christ." The provision is not coming. It has come.

He made the point with something as ordinary as getting dressed. None of us walks out of the house into a November morning in what we slept in. We dress for the elements we are about to face. Paul tells the church to do the same thing spiritually: put on the full armor of God — truth, righteousness, the readiness of the gospel, faith, salvation, and the Word — not once, but daily. The armor is not something we earn by maturity. It hangs in the closet of every believer. The only question is whether we put it on before the day begins.

> ***"Only when God's blood-washed children believe what God has given them will we see a difference in our world."***
>
> *— Pastor André Singleton*

Notice the word he leaned on: children. We never graduate into being God's adults. We remain His children, always learning, always growing, always under a Father's care. That is why so many believers live spiritually defeated. We are trying to manufacture what our Father has already provided, and we are looking to the world to validate what heaven has already declared.

Pastor Singleton was clear about where this begins: our first ministry is ourselves and our homes. He told us he has asked God, "If the church were just like me, what would it look like?" — and then found himself repenting. This week, before you look at what is wrong out there, get dressed in what God has given you in here. Someone in your house, at your job, or across the street is watching how you walk out the door.

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

*Space is given below each question for journaling or small-group notes.*

1. *When I face pressure or disappointment, do I tend to live as though I am lacking something God has not given me? Where in my life am I acting spiritually under-dressed?*

2. *Which piece of God's armor — truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, or the Word — do I most often leave in the closet? What pattern in my days keeps me from putting it on?*

3. *If the church were just like me — my prayer life, my patience at home, my faithfulness — what would it look like? What one thing would I want to be different?*

4. *What would it look like for me to "get dressed" spiritually every morning this week before I leave the house? What specific practice will I commit to, and who in my home might notice the difference?*

*Christian Fellowship Baptist Church · Week of November 15, 2026*

DAY TWO

# CHOSEN BEFORE THE FOUNDATION: AN IDENTITY NO ONE CAN REVOKE

## SCRIPTURE READING

**EPHESIANS 1:4–5 (NIV)**

*For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.*

## DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Before your mother knew you, before you took your first breath, God had already made a decision about you. Pastor Singleton slowed us down on this Sunday: He chose us in Christ "before the creation of the world." Adoption is not an accident. No one is adopted by surprise. A father chooses, signs, and claims. That is what God has done for every person who belongs to Jesus Christ. The psalmist said it this way: all the days ordained for me were written in God's book before one of them came to be.

And yet many of us still let other voices name us. Pastor Singleton spoke tenderly about words some of us heard growing up — "You're not going to be anything. You should be better." None of us had perfect parents, and some of us carry family wounds that are real and deep. He named the usual thieves of identity: rejection, past mistakes, family history, disappointment, and other people's opinions. Each of them speaks loudly. None of them has the authority to speak last.

> ***"God didn't make any mistakes. Nobody is an "oops" child."***
>
> *— Pastor André Singleton*

Then he told on himself. For most of his life he wanted to be taller, measuring himself against everyone around him instead of trusting that God had made him exactly as He intended. When he finally believed that, confidence followed — not confidence in himself, but in a God who does not make mistakes. That is the freedom of adoption. Our worth was settled by the One who chose us, not by the ones who overlooked us.

This does not mean every hurt we suffered was good. It means nothing we suffered was beyond God's reach or outside His power to redeem. The family you came from was not a surprise to Him, and the pain you carried can become the very place you minister to someone else. But this identity has to be fed. You learn what God says about you by staying in His Word and in fellowship with His people. This week, when an old voice rises up to tell you who you are, answer it with the Father's verdict: chosen, adopted, and loved.

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

*Space is given below each question for journaling or small-group notes.*

1. *Whose voice still has the most influence over how I see myself — a parent, a former relationship, a past failure, or the crowd around me? When did that voice first start speaking?*

2. *Which of the thieves of identity — rejection, past mistakes, family history, disappointment, or others' opinions — do I most often let define me? What does it cost me when I do?*

3. *Like Pastor Singleton wishing to be taller, what part of how God made me have I spent time and energy trying to change or hide? What would it look like to offer that part back to God for His glory?*

4. *What specific truth from Scripture about my identity will I memorize and speak this week when the old voices return? Who could I share this with who is still living under someone else's verdict?*

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*If you are reading this devotional, text the words "read it" to 816-807-6605.*

DAY THREE

# PAID IN FULL: REDEMPTION AND THE FREEDOM OF FORGIVENESS

## SCRIPTURE READING

**EPHESIANS 1:6–8A (NIV)**

*…to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us.*

## DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Most of us have read the fine print on a credit card statement and felt our stomach drop: make only the minimum payment, and you will be paying this off for decades. Pastor Singleton described looking at his own budget and realizing the minimum was all he had. Then he set that picture beside the cross. Our debt of sin carried an interest no one could outrun. And God said, "I will send My Son." Jesus put the account in His own name and paid it through His blood. That is what redemption means — bought back, released, paid in full.

He added something honest. We still make charges. We still fall short every day. But His grace keeps meeting us at the counter, and when we come to Him in confession, it is wiped away again. That is why we cannot take sin lightly. Pastor Singleton offered a quiet example: someone asks you a question, you know exactly what they need to know, and you answer only the narrow words they used. Technically true, and still a lie. Then he asked: what if God answered us that way? Instead, He gives what we need, even when we do not know how to ask.

> ***"We're often expecting peace from somebody, rather than peace from God."***
>
> *— Pastor André Singleton*

The freedom of forgiveness flows in two directions. We receive it from God, and we extend it to others. Pastor Singleton admitted that after praying for a long time and finally finding the courage to ask someone's forgiveness, he has walked away furious when they shrugged it off. In that moment he was getting ready to sin again. What God taught him is something many of us need: do not go with expectations. Do what God asked you to do, and let Him supply the peace that passes understanding.

Forgiveness was never meant to depend on how the other person responds. It depends on how we respond to God. This week, if there is a conversation you have been putting off, have it — and then release the outcome to the One who already paid your account in full.

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

*Space is given below each question for journaling or small-group notes.*

1. *Do I really grasp the size of the debt Christ paid for me, or have I grown casual about sin? Where have I been treating "small" dishonesty — like a technically true answer — as harmless?*

2. *When I ask for forgiveness or offer it, what response am I secretly expecting? How do I react inwardly when I do not get it?*

3. *Is there a person I need to go to this week, either to ask forgiveness or to extend it? What would it look like to go simply because God asked me to, without needing a particular reaction?*

4. *What would change in my week if I sought my peace from God instead of from other people's approval? What expectation do I need to surrender to Him today?*

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DAY FOUR

# WHEN GOD WON'T CO-SIGN: HIS PLAN ABOVE OUR PLANS

## SCRIPTURE READING

**EPHESIANS 1:8B–10 (NIV)**

*With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment — to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.*

## DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Paul lifts our eyes to the widest horizon in Scripture: God is bringing everything — and Pastor Singleton stressed everything — together under the authority of Christ. History is not drifting. It is headed somewhere. And the mystery Paul celebrates is that God has let us in on His plan and made us part of it. That is a staggering privilege. It is also a correction, because if God has a plan that big, it necessarily stands above the smaller plans we make for ourselves.

Pastor Singleton put it in language every one of us understands. Too often we draw up our plans, write the check, and then hand it to God and ask Him to co-sign. But He never asked us to write that check. Some of us remember writing one on a Tuesday and praying it would not clear before payday on Friday. When it bounced, we paid twice — once to the bank and once to the vendor — and a small debt became a large one. Plans God never signed carry hidden fees like that.

> ***"When you're putting a plan together, it's almost like you're writing a check and asking God to co-sign on it."***
>
> *— Pastor André Singleton*

The better way is to bring the plan before we sign it: "Lord, this is what I desire. Is it in Your plan for my life?" When God co-signs, the account behind the signature never runs short. Sometimes His answer is no: do not write that check, do not say that word, let it go. That is not God withholding good. It is God protecting us from charges we cannot afford. Jesus said to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added.

Pastor Singleton connected this back to his height. Think, he said, of the time and money we spend on adjustments to become something other than what God called us to be. Some of our planning is really that — an expensive effort to escape how God made us. This week, before you commit to the next thing, ask Him to sign it first. (If you are reading this devotional, text the words "read it" to 816-807-6605.)

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

*Space is given below each question for journaling or small-group notes.*

1. *What plan, goal, or ambition am I pursuing right now that I have never sincerely asked God about? Have I been asking Him to bless it rather than asking whether it is His?*

2. *Where in my past did I "write a check" God never signed? What hidden costs am I still paying from that decision?*

3. *What adjustments am I making — in appearance, spending, or striving — to become something other than what God created me to be? What would it look like to stop?*

4. *Before I make my next significant decision this week, how will I bring it to God first? What specific step — prayer, Scripture, wise counsel — will I take before I sign?*

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DAY FIVE

# FOR THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY: NO PART IS INSIGNIFICANT

## SCRIPTURE READING

**EPHESIANS 1:11–12 (NIV)**

*In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.*

**1 CORINTHIANS 12:21, 26 (NIV)**

*The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" … If one part suffers, every part suffers with it.*

## DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Our ultimate purpose is not happiness, success, or comfort. It is to live "for the praise of his glory." Pastor Singleton refused to let that stay abstract. He asked us to examine ourselves, not the person in the next pew: How do I treat my spouse? How do I live as a single person? How am I raising my children? How do I handle conflict? How do I serve others? How do I respond when life is hard? God is glorified, or not, in exactly those places.

He was honest about conflict. His habit, he said, has been to deflect: when someone does not respond the way he expects, he backs away instead of trusting God for direction. And he admitted how hard it is to receive feedback after years of handling his own business his own way. Yet the person offering a hard word may be the very one God sent.

> ***"We have to look at each other like that. Nobody in here is insignificant."***
>
> *— Pastor André Singleton*

Then he spoke about service. We ask, "How are you doing?" expecting "Blessed and highly favored," and when someone tells us the truth, we answer "I'll pray for you" and walk away. But when someone opens up, you are now in the boat with them in high rapids. That means calling back and staying close. Like the body, the church cannot tell its struggling members to manage on their own. If the liver fails, the whole body suffers. Stub your little toe and the pain runs all the way up.

Even our hardest seasons can glorify God. Scripture tells us to give thanks in all circumstances — not some — because God is working through us and for us. This week, choose one relationship where you will deliberately reflect His glory, and climb into one boat you have been avoiding.

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

*Space is given below each question for journaling or small-group notes.*

1. *Of the areas Pastor Singleton named — marriage or singleness, parenting, conflict, service, hard circumstances — where am I least reflecting God's glory right now? What does that look like day to day?*

2. *When conflict comes, do I deflect, attack, or withdraw? What feedback have others offered me that I have been unwilling to receive, and why?*

3. *Who in my church family has opened up to me and been left with only "I'll pray for you"? What would it look like to get in the boat with them this week?*

4. *In what difficult circumstance is God asking me to give thanks rather than complain? What specific act of gratitude or service will I offer this week as praise to His glory?*

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DAY SIX

# SEALED AND NEVER ALONE: WALKING IN THE SPIRIT'S POWER

## SCRIPTURE READING

**EPHESIANS 1:13–14 (NIV)**

*And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession — to the praise of his glory.*

## DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Paul ends this great passage on solid ground: when we believed, we were sealed with the Holy Spirit, God's own deposit guaranteeing our inheritance. Pastor Singleton gave us a picture to carry. Some luxury automakers seal the engine of their finest cars; open the hood yourself and you void the warranty. God has sealed us, too. The difference is that we keep opening the hood — tinkering, fixing, trying to run our own lives — and still His warranty does not lapse. He keeps working on what belongs to Him.

That is the confidence Paul wants every believer to have. Our relationship with God does not rest on our consistency but on His seal. The Holy Spirit does not merely mark us; He lives in us and empowers us to live the Christian life. And here Pastor Singleton turned the image on us: how quickly we declare someone else's warranty void when they cross us. God has not done that to us. We should not do it to one another.

> ***"Stop trying to do it by yourself, because God wants to walk with you."***
>
> *— Pastor André Singleton*

He confessed what most of us know: when he tries to do things by himself, it usually does not work. But when he trusts God, the Spirit walks him through, even through his mistakes. When God says He will never leave us nor forsake us, Pastor Singleton said, that is real. Even in seasons when we feel abandoned, He is walking with us through them.

And He has placed us in a community of believers. Not everyone around us is at the same level of maturity; people will make mistakes and sometimes hurt us. When that happens, we go back to God first: "This is what I'm going through, and this is who hurt me. How should I respond?" To deflect and handle it alone is to tell the body, "I don't need my eye, my nose, my foot." This week, let the Holy Spirit lead, guide, and direct you — and let His people walk with you, too.

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

*Space is given below each question for journaling or small-group notes.*

1. *Where am I still "opening the hood" — trying to fix or manage something in my life that I need to trust the Holy Spirit to handle? What makes it hard to let go?*

2. *Whose "warranty" have I declared void because of how they treated me? How does God's faithfulness to me challenge that decision?*

3. *When I am hurt by someone in the body of Christ, what is my usual first move? What would it look like to go to God first and ask Him how to respond?*

4. *What one area of my life will I intentionally surrender to the Spirit's leading this week? Who in my church family will I let walk with me in it?*

*Christian Fellowship Baptist Church · Week of November 15, 2026*

# CLOSING PRAYER

*Already Clothed: Everything We Need in Christ*

*Father, we thank You that we do not come to You empty-handed or under-dressed. In Christ You have already blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms. Forgive us for living as though we lack what You have already given, and for looking to the world to validate what heaven has already declared. Clothe us each morning in Your truth, Your righteousness, Your peace, and Your Word, and let our homes be the first place our faith is seen.*

*Lord, You chose us before the creation of the world. You adopted us in love when no one else would have. We lay before You every voice that has tried to name us — rejection, failure, disappointment, family wounds, and the opinions of others — and we receive Your verdict instead: chosen, adopted, and loved. Where we have spent years trying to become something other than what You made, give us the confidence of children who trust their Father.*

*Jesus, You put our debt in Your own name and paid it with Your blood. We confess that we have treated sin lightly, and that we have offered forgiveness with conditions and asked for it with expectations. Teach us to go where You send us and leave the outcome with You. Let our peace come from You and not from the reactions of other people.*

*God of the great plan, You are bringing all things together under Christ. Forgive us for writing checks You never signed and then asking You to cover them. Before we make our next decision, draw us to Your presence to ask, "Is this in Your plan for my life?" When You say no, give us grace to trust that You are protecting us from costs we cannot afford.*

*Make us a people who live for the praise of Your glory — in our marriages and our singleness, in how we raise our children, in how we handle conflict, and in how we serve one another. Keep us from treating any member of this body as insignificant. When someone opens their heart to us, help us climb into the boat with them and stay through the rapids.*

*Holy Spirit, You have sealed us and You will not leave us. We stop trying to do this by ourselves. Lead us, guide us, and direct us through this week. Walk with us when we stumble, and walk with us when others stumble against us. Make Christian Fellowship Baptist Church a body that believes what You have given, so that our city may see the difference. In the mighty name of Jesus, Amen.*