

## ***“Sought Out”***

*“And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken” (Isaiah 62:12).*

As the Church, the Bride of Christ we have been handpicked by Christ our Bridegroom. He has sought us out from the others... He has come after us in His love. He has wrapped His robes of righteousness around us and has taken us back to His family. And the most amazing thing about this is that Jesus didn't have to do this...

Yes, if you are in Christ, you are a part of the “Sought Out” club... The Greek word translated as Church in the Bible is “ekklesia.” This word, “ekklesia” means “the called-out ones.” Simply put, the true church, is composed of those who are called by God outwardly and inwardly by the Holy Spirit. When Jesus calls someone to discipleship, He is calling that person to Himself... Jesus is calling them out of the world and to now belong to Him, to follow Him, to learn from Him, and to worship Him in loving devotion.

And what we must always keep at the frontlets of our minds as the Church is that there wasn't anything in us that made God seek us out... In other words, it wasn't our pretty dress that drew His love, for we were but clothed in dirty rags when He came to us (Isaiah 64:6). It wasn't our smile, eloquent speech, giftedness, or accolades that made the Lord want to come after us... He sought us out in His Sovereign love (Ephesians 1:5). In Jesus' own words: “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost” (Luke 19:10). And the reality of the gospel is that we would all still be lost if it wasn't for God's loving-kindness to seek us out!

And so that raises the practical question: “How should I live my life, now that I have been “Sought Out?” Well, first and foremost you should strive to live like you have been “Sought Out.” Put away childish things... Walk away from the chains of the flesh. Break loose from the pullings of the world. Separate yourself from the sinfulness of this society (2 Corinthians 6:17). By the mercies of God and the power of the Holy Spirit at work within you, seek to be different than the world around you...

Secondly, you should come alongside the Lord Jesus and go help Him seek others out... Go into the highways and hedges and seek out the straying souls to come into the Kingdom of God. Seek out your friends, family, and the lady at the grocery store. Go out and tell them and show them by the way that you live that there is a great title for the children of God... A title that only the Christian can bear... A holy title that should humble us down to our knees... Called, chosen, consecrated, is the Christian, for you have been “Sought Out” by God Himself!

Respect the Blood,  
Dalton Mathis