



HEAVEN EARTH

Heaven on Earth: Stamped

September 5th & 6th

Speaker: Dr. Mark Batterson

Scripture: Ephesians 1:3-14

Series Overview

Our identity, our authority is anchored in a dimension of reality called heaven. It is the domain of God's dominion — perfect harmony, true identity, full authority. Every blessing is ours in the heavenly realm (Ephesians 1:3). Heaven is invading earth right here, right now. How? With a supernatural demonstration of God's love and power and wisdom. As citizens of heaven, we represent the heavenly realm. The goal? On earth, as it is in heaven.

Series Discussion Questions

In what ways did you witness heaven invading earth this week?

Message Overview

You are not the mistakes you've made. You are not the labels people have put on you. You are who God says you are — nothing less, nothing else. You are blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ. You are chosen before the beginning of time. You are blameless in the eyes of God. You are adopted by the Heavenly Father. You are redeemed by the blood of Christ. You are sealed by the Holy Spirit, and you are stamped with the image of God.

Message-Specific Discussion Questions

Read Ephesians 1:3-14. List aloud all of the verbs you can find.

As you think back on your week, how did those in your life give grace, make peace, tell the truth, or set the tone? What opportunities did you have to do the same?

It can be easy to think we are just spectators in God's work. We watch from a distance or pray something to pass, but we don't act like a shareholder. If you were to take co-ownership in the work of God here on earth, what difference do you think it would make in your life and in the lives around you? What would stay the same?

Pastor Mark says, "Identity issues are theology issues. Identity issues are idolatry issues." What area in your life may not be rooted in something other than Christ?

- GUILT issues are a misunderstanding of God's grace.
- CONTROL issues are a misinterpretation of God's sovereignty.
- ANGER issues are a misjudgment of God's mercy.
- PRIDE issues are a miscalculation of God's transcendence.
- FEAR issues are a misappropriation of God's love.
- TRUST issues are a misapprehension of God's goodness.

As you review the list above, which aspect of God might be most misunderstood?

As you review the list below, which spiritual blessing might be most needed right now?

- I am BLESSED with every spiritual blessing in Christ.
- I was CHOSEN before the beginning of time.
- I am BLAMELESS in the eyes of God.
- I am ADOPTED by the Heavenly Father.
- I am REDEEMED by the blood of Christ.
- I am SEALED by the Holy Spirit.
- I am STAMPED with the image of God.

Take time to share and pray with someone in response to the two questions above.

Practical Application

- Spend an hour this week with God, a Bible, and a journal and ask Him, "How do you see me?"
- If you are not already connected to a small group, consider joining one this fall. Dozens of groups will be launching this week. Check one out at ncc.re/groups.
- Find a daily rhythm of connecting with God and with one another by committing to [NCC Daily](#), a five-minute audio devotional to help you walk verse-by-verse through the book of Ephesians. Invite a few others to do so with you, connecting throughout the week via Marco Polo or a group text, or meeting together online or in person to discuss and debrief what you're learning.