

# UnCommon Destiny

*UnCommon - Week Three*

We've talked about having an **uncommon knowledge** (knowing what most people don't know - the truth and power of the **gospel**).

We've talked about having an **uncommon strength** available to us because God grows us through our suffering.

Today, we're going to talk about having an **uncommon destiny**.

The first time I flew from Atlanta to Orange County, California, there was a long delay and the desk agent wanted to reroute me... through **Ontario!** I'd never been to Canada, but was willing to do whatever it took. Then she informed me that the airport in Ontario, California was only an hour's drive from Orange County.

My destiny was Orange County, but the pathway from Arkansas to Cali by way of Canada seemed really off to me.

**When you follow Jesus, you are living toward an uncommon destiny!**

The question, for people who follow Jesus, isn't *how do I get to heaven?*  
The question is, *how does heaven make a difference in how I'm living now?*

- Our destiny is **peace**, but we often choose to live under the weight of **worry**.
- Our destiny is **unity**, but we often choose to live **divided** from others.
- Our destiny is **love** without limits, but we often make **unloving** choices.
- Our destiny is **wisdom**, but we often make **unwise** choices.
- Our destiny is eternally **unbroken fellowship with God**, but we often choose to live life on our own without the power and guidance of God's Spirit.

**If you follow Jesus, you're guaranteed to get home, someday, but daily, you are choosing the pathway you'll walk on the way there.**

Here's the BIG question...

## Does your current trajectory line up with your eternal destiny?

Paul shares with us a big promise about our destiny, as well as guidance for how our destiny makes a difference in how we live now...

### 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 NLT

<sup>1</sup> For we **know** that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down (that is, when we die and leave this earthly body), we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands. <sup>2</sup> **We grow weary** in our present bodies, and we long to put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing. <sup>3</sup> For we will put on heavenly bodies; we will not be spirits without bodies. <sup>4</sup> While we live in these earthly bodies, we groan and sigh, but it's not that we want to die and get rid of these bodies that clothe us. Rather, we want to put on our new bodies so that these dying bodies will be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> **God himself has prepared us for this, and as a guarantee he has given us his Holy Spirit.**

<sup>6</sup> **So** we are **always confident**, even though we know that as long as we live in these bodies we are not at home with the Lord. <sup>7</sup> **For we live by believing and not by seeing.** <sup>8</sup> Yes, we are fully confident, and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for **then we will be at home** with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> So whether we are here in this body or away from this body, **our goal is to please him.** <sup>10</sup> **For we must all stand before Christ to be judged.** We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body.

We get tired.

We get weary.

We groan and hope for something better...

And God has promised full, final, eventual deliverance from all pain and suffering and waiting!

**Where we're headed for the hereafter should make a powerful difference for us while we're living in the here-and-now!**

**Stop seeing your decisions as isolated occurrences and start seeing the connection... you're on a trajectory from one decision to the next.**

## 1. We walk in fellowship with the Holy Spirit.

*Verse 5... "God himself has prepared us for this, and as a guarantee he has given us his Holy Spirit."*

**The UnCommon Way...** Everybody lives life in their **natural** ability. But we get to live with **supernatural** power because of the presence of God.

## 2. We walk by faith and not by sight.

*Verse 7... "For we walk by faith and not by sight."*

Direction, not intention, determines destination. ~ Andy Stanley

**The UnCommon Way...** Everybody lives life by seeing and assessing things in their present context. We get to assess everything in light of eternity!

## 3. We live to please God alone.

*Verses 9 and 10... "So whether we are here in this body or away from this body, our goal is **to please him**. For we must all stand before Christ to be judged."*

**The UnCommon Way...** Everybody lives to please and impress other people and to keep other people happy. Those who don't do so often live to please self. But we live to please God alone!

There are **two questions** God puts to each of us that pertain to our eternity...

1. What did you do with Jesus, my Son, who died for your sins?
2. How did you invest the new life I gave you?

The first determines our **destiny**.

The second determines our **trajectory**.

**Let's choose the pathway that lines up with God's destiny for us!**