

BRUSHFIRES | WEEK 4

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Core Doctrine: Sovereign Grace – Unconditional Election

Verse: Ephesians 1:4–5 (CSB)

“For he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in love before him. He predestined us to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.”

Book Context:

Paul wrote Ephesians around A.D. 60 while imprisoned in Rome, addressing the believers in Ephesus and the surrounding region. The letter emphasizes the cosmic scope of God’s redemptive plan. Chapter 1 opens with a cascade of praise focused entirely on God’s eternal initiative to redeem His people through Christ—before creation even began.

Conversational Evangelism

The idea of being “chosen” by God is often met with resistance. Many feel it’s unfair or exclusive. But what if you framed it this way: “If God picked people based on merit, who would be chosen?” That opens the door to show that election isn’t about exclusion—it’s about grace. Unmerited. Unearned. Unshakable.

Core Doctrine

Unconditional Election means God’s choice to save was made before we existed and was not based on anything we would do. It was rooted in His will, not ours. These verses anchor us in God’s sovereign love, reminding us that our adoption into His family wasn’t a backup plan—it was His plan from eternity past.

This doctrine doesn’t diminish human responsibility—it magnifies divine mercy. It silences pride and stirs worship.

Call to Action

Live as one who's been wanted by God—not for what you bring, but for what He gives. Let this truth humble you, and let it compel you to tell others that God doesn't wait for people to qualify—He qualifies the called.

And as you share the gospel, remember: if salvation starts with God, then no one is too far gone to be reached by His grace.

Fire Starter Question

How does knowing that God chose you before the foundation of the world affect the way you share your story—and who are you praying will experience that same calling?