God Has a Plan

Focus & Foundation:

Key Scripture: Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you as a prophet to the nations."

- Even if we have been walking in the world's plan, it is time to choose God's plan for our lives
- Ask the Lord to reveal His plan for your life. He has chosen you just as He chose Jeremiah. God created you for a special purpose - for such a time as this.

Identity:

- · What do you think you have been chosen for? For now? For the future?
- · God used many young adults in the Bible to fulfill His plans and purposes.
- Can you think of some Biblical examples of young men and women who fulfilled God's purpose for their lives?
 - Moses- He led God's people out of slavery. He was saved when many other children in his generation had been killed.
 - Joshua- He was a mighty commander who led God's people into the Promised Land. He chose to serve Moses during his time of preparation.
 - John the Baptist- He chose to prepare himself and others for his coming King, Jesus Christ.
 - **Daniel-** He was thrown into a fiery hot oven because **he chose** to honor God rather than follow peer pressures. God spared his life.
 - David- He was chosen to be a king in the midst of learning how to be a shepherd
 and feeding sheep. He was a teenager when he slayed a giant that no other man
 would confront. He confronted the giant because of His love for God.
 - Esther- She was chosen to be Queen and to save her people. She was an orphan.
 She prepared herself to meet the King and even risked her life to fulfill her destiny.
 - Josiah- He became a king at 8 years old. He chose to do what was right in God's sight.

Relationships With Honor:

- The Lord has chosen each one of us for a special and unique purpose.
 - Are we living like we are God's chosen generation?
 - How is our relationship with God? How is our relationship with others?

Engage & Equip:

- · How will your actions affect your future?
- · How does the way you see yourself affect your future?
- · What would you like to become?
- · What is your desire?

[&]quot;You have been chosen...you are not forgotten...God knows you by name."

Identity & Worth

Focus & Foundation:

Key Scripture: Psalm 139:13 - "You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb."

Identity:

- · God has a plan for each one of our lives.
 - even before he made the world,
 God loved us and chose us in
 Christ to be holy and without
 fault in his eyes. ⁵ His
 unchanging plan has always been
 to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ.
 And this gave him great pleasure."
 - Your identity in Christ, your individuality, and your uniqueness make you who you are.

The Lie

You get your identity from what you've done.

You get your identity from what people say about you.

Your behavior tells you what to believe about yourself.

The Real Truth

You get <u>your identity</u> from what **God has done for you.**

You get <u>your identity</u> from what God says about you.

Your belief about yourself determines your behavior.

(Taken from "Resolving Spiritual Conflicts and Cross-Cultural Ministry" by Dr. Timothy Warner)

Relationships With Honor:

(For greater depth on Vertical & Horizontal Relationships, please refer to "Counterfeit vs. Real Love" Study.)

- Vertical Relationship (Your relationship with God Loving & Honoring God)
- · Horizontal Relationship (Your relationship with others Loving & Honoring others)

Engage & Equip:

- Developing a strong vertical relationship through getting to know God better:
 - Spending time with God (through worship & prayer)
 - o Talking with God (prayer)
 - Discovering what pleases God (through studying the Word of God)
 - Learning more about God (through church and studying God's Word)
- Developing horizontal relationships through giving a kind word to someone who needs encouragement or through acts of kindness and honor.

"You have been chosen...you are not forgotten...God knows you by name."