

February 2008—"Treasures"

In March, I will be speaking at an all-day Ladies' Retreat using the theme "Treasures." Several years ago, I memorized the book of Ephesians. I then wrote a study and taught it in a ladies' Sunday school class at Evangel Baptist in Bradenton. I am excited to reexamine the book and dig for "treasure."

Paul reminds us of who we were: unable to understand spiritual things or do anything spiritual to please God; living according to the world's standards and with the world's values; allowing Satan to have an active influence in our lives by causing us to doubt and question God's Word. From this he proclaims the greatest treasure of all— **GOD MADE US ALIVE IN CHRIST!**

God the Father has **CHOSEN US** and **MADE US HEIRS** to His Kingdom.

Through Christ we have been **FORGIVEN AND REDEEMED.**

The Father has given the **HOLY SPIRIT AS AN EARNEST** to guarantee His promises will be kept, and He has **SEALED US** unto the day of redemption. He will finish His work and bring us to glory.

EVERY BLESSING OF THE SPIRIT IS OURS; everything we need for a successful satisfying Christian life.

I trust you are getting a glimpse of the "treasure" that is ours through salvation. I also want to remind us that these riches are the basis for our life and power as we serve Him. Eph 2:10 tells us "*we are His workmanship*" (poem of God / expression of God) and He has "*ordained (already prepared) good works for us to walk in.*"

May I challenge each of you to "dig in" for yourself and find the nuggets of treasure that He has for you in His Word.

—Terri'