**Planning to Grow**

**Decision Making and the Will of God**

**When You Don’t Fit In**

**I. Remember the Identity of Jesus (v. 4)**

A. The only foundation that actively sustains all (v. 4, 6-7)

B. The only person who did not disappoint God the Father (v. 4)

**John 9:3** - *Jesus answered, “It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him.“*

C. The only dividing line between the faithful and the faithless (v. 4, 6-8)

**Acts 4:12** - *“And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”*

**John 20:30-31** - *Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.*

**2 Peter 3:9** - *The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.*

**II. Remember Our Identity In Jesus**

**Exodus 19:6** - *and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”*

**Isaiah 43:20-21** - *The beasts of the field will glorify Me, The jackals and the ostriches, Because I have given waters in the wilderness And rivers in the desert, To give drink to My chosen people. 21 “The people whom I formed for Myself Will declare My praise.*

A. You are Selected

B. You are being built into a Christ-Centered Community

**Joshua 4:21-24** - *He said to the sons of Israel, “When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, ‘What are these stones?’ 22 then you shall inform your children, saying, ‘Israel crossed this Jordan on dry ground.’ 23 “For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed, just as the Lord your God had done to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed; 24 that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, so that you may fear the Lord your God forever.”*

**III. Remember to Live Out Your Purpose**

A. In your Heart

**Romans 12:1-2** - *Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*

B. In your Behavior