What does it mean that God Chose You

The summer after I graduated from college, Alice and I stumbled upon one of those singing television shows called the voice. If you have not seen the voice let me explain it to you. From the words of NBC. “The show's innovative format features four stages of competition: the first begins with the Blind Auditions, then the Battle Rounds, Knockouts and, finally, the Live Performance Shows.

During the Blind Auditions, the decisions from the musician coaches are based solely on voice and not looks. The coaches hear the artists perform but they don't get to see them, thanks to rotating chairs. If a coach is impressed by the artist's voice, that coach pushes a button to select the artist for their team. At this point, the coach's chair will swivel so that they can face the artist they selected. If more than one coach pushes the button, the power then shifts to the artists to choose which coach they want to work with. If no coach pushes their button, the artist is eliminated from the competition.

Once the teams are set, the battle is on. The coaches dedicate themselves to developing their team of artists, giving them advice and sharing the secrets of their success, along with help from their celebrity advisors. The coaches enlist music industry heavyweights to prepare their artists for the Battle Rounds.

After each vocal battle, the coach must choose which of his/her singers will advance to the next round of competition.

For the remainder of the artists who made it to the Knockouts, one superstar Mega Mentor will be on hand to work with all the coaches and their teams as they prepare the artists for this challenge.

Once the Live Performance Shows begin, the top artists will compete each week against each other during a live broadcast. As always, the television audience will vote to save their favorite artists and choose the winner.” And we were hooked binging the first season.

I think one thing the voice does, is it plays on one of our most basic and fundamental human desires. A desire to be chosen by someone else. A desire to be well, desired. Being chosen by another person, being loved by another person is amazing. Just think about how you felt when someone first chose you. You probably felt amazing, you felt lucky or fortunate and grateful. And for some of us who have that deep desire we feel complete and made whole. And that is just with being chosen by a person.

There are other areas where we long to be chosen. Whether it is in gym class and everyone is choosing teams, hoping not to be the last one picked because that person is not chosen you are just stuck with them. Hoping to be chosen for the play or be accepted into the art show, hoping to be chosen by the school of your dreams, hoping for the interviewer to choose you and offer you that job, hoping your employer chooses you and offers you that promotion. We all at some point in time have had the want, and need to be chosen, and in being chosen its almost as if we are validated as being worth something.

**One of our basic human desires is to be chosen: for someone to see us, know us, like us, and desire a special relationship with us. Do you remember feeling chosen as a child?**

Maybe your parents told you they were happy you were born. Maybe someone took time to listen to your joke or story. Maybe they took you on a special trip or planned a day just for the two of you or wrote you a letter or called you just to chat.

When we experience the joy of being chosen, it affirms great truth: I am unique, I have great worth, my life has purpose. When our desire to be chosen goes unmet, it can cause us to believe lies about ourselves: I'm not special, lovable, smart enough, attractive enough, nice enough, rich enough, professional enough, perfect enough… and the list goes on.

Since the world often chooses those who are particularly spectacular — the most talented, charming, beautiful, well-spoken, useful, accomplished, decorated — we might think we need to be a particular kind of person for God to choose us, but that’s not how it works. Look at the people Jesus "chose" to be in a special relationship with: social pariahs, tax collectors, prostitutes, sinners, people angry with the government, people who worked for the government, people dissatisfied with the mainstream religious beliefs of their day…

Do you believe God has chosen you also, that God desires a unique, affirming, loving relationship with just you?

The good thing for us is that we know without a shadow of a doubt that we can take God at God’s word. We have seen throughout our lives and all over the scriptures that God remains faithful, and God keeps His word. The greatest expression of that is Jesus Christ and as we have discussed throughout my time here in sermon and Bible Study Jesus fulfills so many promises and covenants of God in the Old Testament. So if God is able to keep promises over a thousand years in the making, I believe we are able with confidence to take God, at God’s word when Jesus says “you did not choose me but I chose you.”

So every day of your life you need to take these words to heart you are chosen not just by anyone, not by a friend, not by a boss, not by peer, not by some committee, not by some random person, you have been chosen by almighty God. The creator of the universe, the alpha and the omega, the one who can speak things into existence, the one who made our beautiful planet and put the stars in the sky, the one that raised Jesus from the dead and raised you to new life, That God has chosen you. And God chose you not because of something you might become. God didn’t choose you because you are going to be able to come up with a cure, create a vaccine, hit homeruns, score baskets, perform on broadway, paint a famous painting, be a surgeon, research or dig up something amazing, or whatever you want to name.

God didn’t choose you because of what you can offer. And God chose you while also knowing everything about you, even your deep dark secret because God knows everything that has and will happen. And yet while knowing everything about us, God chose us first. Make no mistake about it we hold onto this statement by Jesus dearly because no matter when we submit ourselves to the lordship of Jesus Christ, God first chose us before the foundations of the earth were put into place.

God knew every good and every bad decision we would make and yet God still chose us. And not just that, God happily chose me and God happily chose you. And knowing that the king of the universe died for you and chose you should be all the validation that we need and be able to use this information to help us in our lives.

That when people try to tell us differently, we can come back to Jesus’s words and be reminded that I have indeed been chosen by almighty God.

When people say you are not loveable, say wrong, I have been chosen by God. When they say you aren’t smart enough, tell them wrong I have been chosen by God, not good enough, Im chosen by God. Not X, Y, or Z, I am chosen by God.

***Why* Did God Choose *You*?**

1. He chose you because *he wanted you*. He wanted you to be his. He wanted a friend, a partner. He wanted someone to walk with and share himself with. *You* are that one. He chose you because he wanted you. Rom.1:6*– And you are among the chosen ones who received the call to belong to Jesus, the Anointed One.* The wealth of the glory of God’s inheritance is you! In fact, you are the hidden treasure in this world. He chose you because you are a pearl of great price.
2. He chose you because *he loved you before time began*. (Eph. 1:4-6) Before any star was burning or any tree was growing or any stream was flowing, he loved you and carried you in his heart. He gave you a destiny before he created one thing in this universe. You are more important to him than any created thing. So his love for you is paramount.
3. He chose you to *show you hope*. It is the *hope* of *his calling, his choosing*. And hope to give you in this journey of life.
4. He called us to live in fellowship with his Son. 1 Cor. 1:9 – God is forever faithful and can be trusted to do this in you, for he has invited you to co-share the life of his Son, Jesus, the Anointed One, our King! Just think, God wants to walk in friendship and partnership with you!
5. He has called us to live in freedom.(Gal. 5:1, 13) You were not chosen to live in fear, but to live in freedom. This is the true freedom that comes when we let God have all our being. To love God will always bring you into spiritual freedom. Don’t go backwards, move deeper into the heart of God.
6. He chose to use you to display his glory! You are his divine poetry. God has chosen you to show the world a unique message that only you can present. Your life, your unique gifts, your passion for God—they bring to the world a poetic expression of God’s love. How does it feel to be the lyrics of love on two legs? God will use you for his glory as you put him first.

So when the storms of life come raging, when people try to tell you that you are less than you are, when your inner thoughts try to tell you that you are less than you are and that you do not deserve love and care and affection, be reminded that you are chosen by God because he wants you. He loved you before time began. He chose you to give you hope. He chose you to represent him in holiness and truth. He divinely chose you to be the love companion for his Son, Jesus Christ. He chose you to set you free. And he chose you to display his glory.