

## Chosen: Because You Are Loved –

Captain Krista Andrews

### (Selected Verses from Isaiah, Jeremiah, 1 Corinthians and John)

'Come Just As You Are' will be playing in the background while the reading takes place.

Reader 1: O Lord, I will honor and praise your name, for you are my God. You do such wonderful things!

Reader 2: You planned them long ago, and now you have accomplished them.

Reader 3: For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

All: Your plans for our lives our WONDERFUL because WE have been CHOSEN.

Reader 1: You chose Me...

Reader 2: ... and Me...

Reader 3: ... Yes even Me...

Reader 1: Take a good look, friends. Look at who you were when you got called into this life. I am not a natural speaker and a great motivator.

Reader 2: I am not multi-talented with huge gifts and ability.

Reader 3: I am not influential or from a high-society family.

All: We are not the 'brightest and the best' among you.

Reader 1: But WE have been CHOSEN...

Reader 2: CHOSEN because we are loved...

Reader 3: CHOSEN despite who we are...

Reader 1: Look carefully at your call, people.

Reader 2: By the world's standards, not many of you are considered to be 'rising stars'. Not many are considered powerful. Not many are considered to be wise. Not many of you come from royalty, right?

Reader 3: But *celebrate this*: God selected you – you are His CHOSEN. The man who has failed time and time again. The woman who has looked into the mirror and has consistently felt ugly and worthless. The teenager who is friendless and alone. The child who is picked last for team events and is unpopular. You are His CHOSEN.

Reader 1: God selected the common and the castoff, whatever lacks status, so He could overturn the claims of those who think those things are significant. He is flipping the status-quo!

Reader 2: Therefore, credit God with your new situation: you are united with Jesus the Anointed. He is God's wisdom for us and more. He is our righteousness and holiness and redemption.

All: Jesus said...

Reader 3: You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name.

All: This is my command: Love each other.

Reader 1: So come to me... My CHOSEN...

Reader 2: Come to me just as you are...

Reader 3: Come and see what I am able to do through you...

All: Life... Strength... Hope... Salvation... You are CHOSEN because YOU are loved.

Solo: *'Come Just As You Are'*.