

**We are about to study the book of Ephesians. Its message is timeless and so necessary in times like these when people are losing hope. In this study, we are going to see the unfathomable blessings that we have in Christ. We will come to understand what it means to be redeemed from a life of sin, brought into His family, and have His grace poured out on us. If we don't understand who we are in Christ and what He has done on our behalf, then we will never be able to walk in victory.**

**We need to recognize that even though our feet are walking in this dark world, we, as true believers in Jesus Christ, are seated with Him in the heavenly places. The invisible battle that rages around us has already been fought and won, and we are on the winning team! Our eternity is secure! Yes, for a time, we are bound to this world which means we will be waging war with the ruler of this world, the prince of darkness. But God gives us the protection that we need, and the weapon to use to be victorious. We don't need to feel shaken and defeated. Jesus died on the cross so that we can walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4) - not in our power but in His, and greater is He that is in me, than he who is in the world (I John 4:4).**

**Stay the course as we mine for the beautiful truths contained in these pages. In Daniel 1, Daniel was taken to a strange land. Knowing the temptations and paganism that faced him, he determined in his heart - he made up his mind - that he would not defile himself. He was going to do what was right before the Lord. I am asking you to be a Daniel. Make up your mind to finish this race because victory lies ahead. Press on no matter what the obstacles may be and reap the blessings that come from digging deeply into God's Word.**

## DAY ONE

In an inductive Bible study, we always begin with the Bible itself. We are going to allow it to speak to us. In order to do that we have to have a grasp of the book we are reading, so we begin by completing a thorough overview. A thorough overview will allow us to set the context of the book. That is our goal for this week's study. We want to get the big picture of the book as a whole before we begin to dissect it chapter by chapter and verse by verse. Every step this week will help us to understand the context of Ephesians.

You will find the book of Ephesians typed out with plenty of space to mark and jot some notes. These are called your Observation Worksheets. These are worksheets! Please use them as such. Mark them up; make notes on them. That is how you will learn!

1. People tend to view the Bible as individual books broken up into individual autonomous chapters. They miss the beauty of how the Bible, from start to finish, is God's love-letter to us, to instruct us and show us how to live. Someone you love has taken the time to write to you. Read what He has to say in its entirety. It shouldn't take you more than 15-20 minutes. Don't stop to think about it. Just read it straight through. Once you finish, jot down your initial impressions of this book.
  
2. There are different literary styles in the Bible, There are prophetic, historical, letters, proverbial, poetic, biographical, and doctrinal books. When reading through Ephesians, what type of literature do you think it is?
  
3. Did you answer #2 by saying that Ephesians was a letter? If you did, you are correct. Every letter has an author who wrote it and an intended audience (the recipients), the Ephesians in this case. Read through Ephesians again. This time as you read, you are going to be looking at the author of the letter. As you read, get a colored pencil (I use blue) and underline every reference to the author. It could be his name, a synonym referring to him, or a pronoun like I, me, my, etc. At this point in time, unless you are experienced at this type of study, I would encourage you not to be concerned about plural pronouns like "we" or "us." When you are done reading through the book and marking the author, record what you learn by asking the 5 W's and H questions (who, what, where, when, why, and how) about the author. Just look for the obvious things that you learn about him at this time. Fill in what you learn on the chart entitled "Author and Recipients" on the next page in the column labeled "Author." Don't forget to indicate chapter and verse of where you found your information.

## Author & Recipients

Author	Recipients

## DAY TWO

1. Remember to start your time in prayer and then read through Ephesians again. This time you are going to look for the recipients of this letter and mark them. I underline mine in green. Mark any references of their name or synonyms and pronouns referring to them. This time you are going to look for pronouns like “you” or “your”. When you are done, record what you learn on page 3 by asking the 5 W’s and H about the recipients. Do the best you can and know that you are learning with each step you take. It will be well worth your effort in the end.
2. If you have ever received a letter, note, or message from someone, it has probably left you with a certain feeling. It may have been excitement, joy, anxiety, anger, hurt, or a combination of these feelings. This is called the atmosphere. Read through Ephesians again. As you read and think about what you have learned about the author and recipients, how would you describe the atmosphere of this letter?
3. This assignment may be a little harder, but give it your best shot. Read through Ephesians one more time. Keeping in mind all that you have learned to this point about the author, recipients, type of literature, and atmosphere, let’s see what you can learn about the time period in which they lived. This will give you the historical background of the book. Record what you learn about the culture, the time period, and the religious background of the time.
4. You have one last job to do today before we end this lesson. There is an “At a Glance Chart” on the book of Ephesians at the end of this lesson on page 11. Fill in the author, recipients, and historical references that could help to pinpoint dates.

## DAY THREE

Studying inductively is like pulling back layers on an onion. You pull off one layer and it exposes the next. So far you have read through the book of Ephesians at least five different times. You should read it at least five more times over the next couple of days. You are beginning to acquire a sense of the book and certain topics may have already started to reveal themselves to you. To continue the overview process, we want to focus in on key words. You have already done some of that on day one and two. You marked and made lists of the author and recipients which are, in a letter, key words.

### **Introduction to Key Words**

You are going to be looking for key words today. Let me explain what a key word is. A key unlocks a door. A key word unlocks the meaning of the book you are reading. So the question becomes, how do I find a key word? You have probably found some by now, and you are not even aware of them. A key word is an important word that is repeated throughout the book. If that word would be removed, you would lose a big part of the meaning and purpose of the book.

When you find key words, you are going to mark them on your observation worksheets. You want to use different colors and different symbols. There is no right way or wrong way to do this. I am not an artist so I tend to go with simple symbols and shapes like arrows, stars, triangles, squares, underlines, etc. On page 10 of this lesson, I have included a sample page of possible symbols. The important thing is that you use the same symbol and color for a particular word throughout your study. When you do, these key words will pop off the page at you.

When you read through the book looking at and marking one or two key words, you will find even more that strike you. When you do, read through again and mark those. One warning though. It is a key word to the book when it is mentioned all the way through the book. You may find a word that is repeated in one particular chapter and not the entire book. That word may be a key to that chapter but not to the book itself. We will mark those at a later time. If you mark it now and then realize later that it was only key to that chapter, it's okay. Just don't list that particular word on your list of key words for the book.

Any mention of the Godhead (God, Jesus, Holy Spirit) are always key; however, depending on how many times they are mentioned and how much time you have to put into your study, it may be a bit overwhelming to mark them at this time. If you choose not to mark them now, you will mark them, and make lists about them when we go to the chapter studies later on.

With that background, I believe you are ready for your assignment for today.

1. Read through Ephesians and jot down a couple of words that are repeated throughout the book.
2. Determine the symbols that you will use to mark these words. Write these words and their corresponding symbol on an index card that you can use as a bookmark.
3. Read through the book again and mark these key words. If, as you are marking, you see other words that are repeated, jot them down here and then read the book again and mark those.
4. Record your key words on the "At a Glance Chart on page 11.

Some of you may be able to mark three or more words at a time. Some of you may only be able to mark one word at a time. Let me encourage you. If you are one that can only mark one at a time, it will take you longer to complete this assignment than other students, but think of the blessings you will have because you have read and struggled over this book many more times. You will be blessed by your effort.

#### DAY FOUR

If you have not completed the assignment for key words, please complete that before you move on.

1. When we mark key words, it is important to make a list of what we learn about those words, just like we did for the author and recipient. On another piece of paper, record the key word and then list what you learn about that word remembering to indicate chapter and verse where you found that information. Do that for all the key words that you marked throughout Ephesians.

2. Next, you are going to discover general subjects or themes covered in Ephesians. The subjects that the author talks about center around those key words you found yesterday. One more layer of that onion is now exposed. Isn't this great? Read through Ephesians looking for these themes. Remember that right now you are just looking for things that are obvious. Record these general subjects on the chart on the "At a Glance Chart" on page 11 in the left-hand column entitled "Themes". You are going to do this for each chapter.
  
3. Looking over what you recorded for step two, do these all tie together into one major theme that runs through the entire book? Record your insights below.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. You now know the important key words. You know the general topics covered in Ephesians. You may have even found a major theme that runs through the whole book. Armed with all this information, read through Ephesians one more time and look for the author's purpose in writing the book. In some books like Luke, John, I John, and Jude, the author plainly states the purpose of his writing. Look at Luke 1:1-4, John 20:30-31, I John 5:13, and Jude 3. Other books, the author doesn't come right out and say it. You have to acquire that information from the key words and topics the author covers. When you can see the general theme running through the entire book, you have caught a glimpse of his purpose. This is why I am writing to you! This is what I want you to see! If you can find his purpose, record that on your worksheets on page 11.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Are there any questions that this book has raised in your mind? You can record these in the space below. We are not going to answer them right now, but if you have those questions written out, then as you study and wade deeper into this book, you may begin discovering the answers to your questions.

## DAY FIVE

I know that you have done a lot of work this week, but trust me, it is worth it. In the inductive method, there are three steps: Observation, Interpretation, and Application. In our instant world, we have been trained to do things quickly. Being able to accurately handle the Word of God is not a pursuit that can be attained without ample time. People want to jump to the “I want to know what this means and how it applies to me.” They want someone else to put the time and effort into the observation and just give them the interpretation and application. The truth of the matter is that the time spent observing God’s Word is vital to our Christian walk. If we rely on everyone else to do the work for us, then we have gained little or nothing that can sustain us through life’s trials and hardships. We find ourselves standing on the sand when the storms come wishing that we were on the rock instead. It takes time to build on the rock. The easy, quick path leads to the sand. Persevere and you will stand!

1. Before you start, begin with prayer. Ask God to reveal His truth to your heart.
2. Read straight through the book of Ephesians with fresh eyes.
3. Read through the book of Ephesians once again. If you have done all your work this week, that makes at least ten times that you have read it. Is it becoming familiar to you? Is it beginning to feel like an old friend? That is the purpose. Remember - you are gleaning the results of that observation process.
4. Read through each chapter of Ephesians individually. As you do, look at what you have recorded on your “At a Glance Chart.” You have recorded the major themes of each chapter already. Now it is time to try to summarize those themes into a chapter title. I record mine in pencil or on my computer, because as I continue to study through the weeks, I may decide to change a title. Record these titles on your “At a Glance Chart.” Here are some suggestions to help you determine a chapter title.
  - a. Try to use no more than four words.
  - b. Use at least one key word in your title.
  - c. Make it distinctive from the other chapter titles.
  - d. Make it descriptive. (it should describe what is in the chapter)
  - e. If possible, use a portion of a particular verse. (that will become your key verse of the chapter).



5. Now try to come up with a book title that you will record on the top of your “At a Glance Chart.” Follow the same rules as above. This book title should encompass all the chapter titles. You should be able to see how each of the chapters fits into the book title. Some people do really well with these titles. Others have great difficulty with them. If you are one of those people, that’s okay. The fact that you are wrestling with the assignment, it is forcing you to think differently about the information you have acquired this week. The more you do this, the easier it does become. But be assured that you are learning just by going through the process!
6. Can you see any divisions in this short book of Ephesians? Some books, like Romans can be broken down into smaller sections. Romans 1-11 are doctrinal while chapters 12-16 are practical. Did you notice any of those kinds of divisions in Ephesians? If so, record them below. You could also record them on the “At a Glance Chart.”

You have spent time this week laying an important foundation on which to build in the weeks to come. This time and dedication to studying the book of Ephesians will help you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you were called.

God ~~Jesus Christ~~ Spirit (Holy Spirit) holy ~~unholy~~

covenant bless curse ~~circumcised~~

~~die~~ (death) Israel (the man, nation, people) ~~sin~~ (iniquity, transgression)

remnant eternal life

devil (evil spirits, mediums, serpent) land (Israel's land given by God)

sign law (commandments) tabernacle (tent of meeting, temple, house) nations

righteous ~~unrighteous~~ atonement wrath

redeem (redemption, redeemer) the coming of the Lord (His coming)

cry pray listen (hear) love (God's love)

grace suffer (affliction, trial, tribulation) repent

kingdom (God's or man's) believe (faith, truth)

gospel day of the Lord ("that day" if a synonym)

references to time double underline all geographical locations

## Ephesians - At a Glance Chart

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author:

Recipient:

Historical  
References  
(date):

Purpose:

Key Words:

Themes and Titles Chart			Segment Divisions
Themes		Titles	
	Chapter		
	1		
	2		
	3		
	4		
	5		
	6		



**You have been blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ. You were chosen to be holy and blameless before the foundation of the world. Through His blood you have forgiveness for sins according to the riches of His grace. Do you realize the priceless gift that has been offered every child of God?**

#### DAY ONE

We begin our week with some more overview. Remember to start each day with prayer and ask the Lord to open your eyes of understanding.

1. Read through the book of Ephesians. As you do take special note of chapter six. You may have recorded some of this information last week, but repetition is the key to learning. Where was Paul when he wrote this letter? How do you know?
  
2. In Ephesians 6:20, Paul refers to being an ambassador in chains. Scholars believe that Paul wrote this epistle while he was a prisoner of Rome around 60-62 A.D. Read Acts 28:11-31 and record how he came to Rome, where he stayed, what he did, how long he was there, etc.

3. Let's discover more about the church in Ephesus. Read through Acts 19:1-20:2. This is part of Paul's third missionary journey. As you read, record the following information.

a. Major events in this chapter

b. Describe the culture of Ephesus in Paul's day

c. Describe the people in Ephesus. What were their lives like?

## DAY TWO

The book of Ephesians can be broken up in two segments. Chapters 1-3 talk about who we are in Christ. Chapters 4-6 tell how we are to live/walk because of those truths.

1. Take the time to thoughtfully and prayerfully read through Ephesians 1-3. There are many rich truths contained in these three chapters. Briefly record those truths below.
2. You are now going to embark on a chapter study of Ephesians 1. I will give you step-by-step instructions. Make sure that you focus simply on chapter 1. Don't go beyond that. Read through Ephesians 1 and make sure that you didn't miss any key words from your marking last week.
3. Read through chapter 1 again, this time marking the key words of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. I mark God in a purple triangle, Jesus with a red cross, and the Holy Spirit with a purple dove. You can mark them anyway you wish. When you complete marking the Godhead in chapter 1, record what you learn about each Person of the Godhead on the pages of key words that you started last week.
4. Read through Ephesians 1 one more time. Are there any other words that are key in just this chapter? If so mark them and then make a list of what you learn about them.

### DAY THREE

As you continue your chapter study, we are going to mark a couple other things. Some are going to be easier than others, so we will start with the easier ones first. Remember that we are only looking at Ephesians 1 at this time.

1. Look for and mark geographical locations. I use a green compass over the place.
2. Are there certain people other than the author and recipient that are mentioned in the chapter? If so, mark that person in a unique way.
3. Look for and mark expressions of time. I use a blue clock. These could be mentions of feasts, day or evening, or words like when, then, after this, until, now, soon, etc.
4. Look for and mark instructions. I underline mine in orange. Look for specific “do this” commands. Then make a list of instructions on a separate paper.
5. Look for and mark warnings. I put my warnings in a black box. Make a list of the warnings you have marked. I put them on the opposite side of the paper as my instructions.
6. Look for and mark contrasts. These show the differences between two words or concepts - opposites. I mark mine with a yellow lightening bolt through the word, then I put that lightning bolt on the side of the observation worksheet next to the verse and put the two words that are being contrasted on either side. Look for words like - but, however, yet, nevertheless, on the other hand.
7. Look for and mark comparisons showing the similarities between two or more words or concepts. I mark mine with brown lines going in both directions over the word and then I draw a line to the two words that are being compared. Look for words like - like, as, such as, also, etc.
8. Look for and mark terms of conclusion. These are words like - wherefore, therefore, for, for this reason, finally, etc. The author has stated certain facts and then states that this is how you should respond, this is what you should do. I put the word in a red box and draw lines that tie the fact with the response.
9. In each chapter, there are several paragraphs. These paragraphs are distinguished by vertical lines separating two verses. Summarize the paragraph by giving it a paragraph titles. Follow the same procedure as you did for chapter titles.



DAY FOUR

Now it is time to look at Ephesians 1 verse by verse. It is time to dive into the depths of truth.

1. Have you marked the phrases “in Christ,” “love,” “in heavenly places,” “according to” and its object (the word that follows), and “grace?” If you haven’t take time to mark them now then record what you learn about them in the space below. Take your time for there is much to absorb!

a. In Christ

b. Love

c. In heavenly places

d. According to

e. Grace

2. Now read through Ephesians 1:3-14. Oh, these are rich verses filled with truth and promise. They are also some of the most misunderstood verses which bring confusion, arguments, and divisions. Just read and meditate on them today. Tomorrow we will do some word studies and cross references to help bring clarity to the verses.

## DAY FIVE

Today we will doing some very important word studies and cross references. Make sure that you give ample time and attention to this assignment. This is where we allow Scripture to interpret Scripture. God doesn't contradict Himself, and He wants us to understand His Word. Allow Scripture to speak for itself. Don't read anything into it that is not there or force your opinion on its interpretation. Are you ready to dig in?

Look up each word in your study tools to find the definition of each of the words in the original Greek language. Record what you find out. Then look up the cross references and record what you learn from each one.

1. chose(n) (elect - KJV)

a. Ephesians 1:4

b. John 15:16

c. I Peter 1:1-2

d. I Corinthians 1:26-30

2. predestined (determined before, predestinate - KJV)

a. Ephesians 1:5

b. Ephesians 1:11

c. Acts 4:27-28 (Acts 2:22-23)

d. Romans 8:28-30

3. redemption (redeemed - KJV)

a. Ephesians 1:7

b. Ephesians 1:14

c. I Peter 1:18-19

d. Colossians 1:13-14

e. Romans 3:24

f. Romans 8:23

4. administration (dispensation, fellowship - KJV)

a. Ephesians 1:10

b. Ephesians 3:9

5. grace

a. Ephesians 1:6, 7

b. Ephesians 2:8-9

b. II Timothy 1:9

This was certainly not a compressive list of cross references, but you should have been able to get a better feel for these verses. How would you explain Ephesians 1:3-14.

**If you are a child of God then you have been chosen by Him from the foundation of the world. You are God's own possession. You have obtained an inheritance as a child of God, and you have been given the Spirit of promise who is a pledge or a promise of all that is yours in Him. Bow before the One who has given you the priceless gift of grace!**

## DAY ONE

Last week we began to dig into the meat of Ephesians 1. We are going to continue that study.

1. Begin today's study with prayer and review of your "At a Glance Chart" which helped you set the context of the book of Ephesians. Review how chapter 1 fit into the rest of the book.
2. As a refresher, read through chapter one in its entirety.
3. Now carefully, thoughtfully, and prayerfully read through Ephesians 1:3-14, thinking back on and applying all that you learned about this passage last week. Remember that as a child of God, you have been chosen. Praise God and the Lord Jesus Christ for all that They have done for you and the precious gift of grace that has been given to you.
4. Something very interesting happens in verses 12-14. Read over these verses carefully. Do you notice something unusual happening in these verses? If so record that below.

5. Did you notice that two groups of people are being talked about in Ephesians 1:12-14? Answer the following questions to help sort this out.
  - a. Who were the “you also” people in verse 13-14? You can use Ephesians 2:11 as a cross reference.
  - b. Now back up to verse 12 and tell me who “we who were the first to hope in Christ” would be.
6. Let’s follow a Scriptural path that will show how the gospel message was going to be shared with the world. (Christ crucified according to the Scriptures, buried and raised again on the 3rd day according to the Scriptures and then appeared to many. I Corinthians 15:3-8)
  - a. Romans 1:16 - The gospel came to who first and then where did it go?
  - b. Mark 7:26-29 - Who did the children and the dogs represent in this account Who was to be satisfied first?
  - c. John 1:11 - To whom did Jesus come? Who are “His own?”
  - d. Read Acts 1:1-14; 2:1-4, 14, 36-41.
    - 1) Jesus appeared to the apostles for 40 days after His resurrection. He wanted them to go to Jerusalem and wait for what? (Acts 1:1-5)
    - 2) When they received the Spirit, where did He want them to witness? List them in order. (Acts 1:6-8)
    - 3) What happened on the day of Pentecost? (Acts 2:1-4)
    - 4) To whom was Peter speaking in Acts 2:14?
    - 5) What were the Jews to know for certain in Acts 2:36?









5. Now look up the Greek word for “pledge” (*earnest* - KJV) in Ephesians 1:14. Write out what you learn below.

6. What exactly is our inheritance in Him? Look at the following Scriptures. As you read, be sure you ask the 5 W’s and H questions. Record what you learn about the inheritance that belongs to the children of the King.

a) Ephesians 1:11

b) I Peter 1:3-5

c) Romans 8:16-23

d) Titus 3:5-7

e) James 2:5

7. In Ephesians 1:14 Paul talks about “a view to the redemption of God’s own possession.” Let’s take a couple of minutes to look at a couple of cross references to help us gain a deeper understanding of what Paul is saying.

a) I Corinthians 6:19-20

b) I Corinthians 15:50-54

c) I John 3:1-3

8. How would you explain verses 13-14 to another person. Think through this carefully and completely. Write down your answer. This will force you to wrestle with all you have learned and process it to a depth of understanding so that you can clearly explain it to another person.

9. If you have time and access to commentaries, you can read what they have to say on Ephesians 1:1-14. DO NOT GO ANY FURTHER THAN THAT! You can jot down any notes or questions that you may have about these verses.

### DAY THREE

1. We are now ready to move on to the last part of Ephesians 1. Read the entire chapter, but take special note of verses 15-23 and how they relate to the first 14 verses. These will be our focus for the next couple of days.
2. There is a transition between verse 14 and verse 15. What are those transitioning words?
3. The words “for this reason” are considered terms of conclusion. How do the thoughts of 15-23 relate to what we have studied in verses 1-14?
4. Verse 15 has caused some debates in Christian circles. There is a word or phrase that causes people to doubt whether Paul had been to Ephesus before he wrote this letter, or perhaps it had been a long time since he had been there. Do you see the word or phrases that cause this speculation?
5. If you have time and the desire, AFTER YOU HAVE COMPLETED THESE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS, you could look this up in various study tools. Whether Paul had never been there, or if it had been awhile after he had been there, the message is still the same, and we can learn from it.

6. Read through Ephesians 1:15-23. If you have not marked the following words and made lists of what you have learned about them, do that now.

a) *prayer/praying*

b) *what is/what are (don't put on book mark of key words)*

c) *knowledge/know*

d) *in accordance (mark the same as according)*

e) *power*

f) *body*

7. Read through Ephesians 1:15-23 again. As you read through the verses, record what you learn about God and Jesus Christ.

God Our Father	The Lord Jesus Christ

8. Make a sketch of what these verses are telling you about Jesus Christ. Be creative (and you don't need to be artistic!)

DAY FOUR AND FIVE

1. Today we are going to look at Paul's prayer for the Ephesians. Read through Ephesians 1:15-19.
  - a) Who is praying?
  - b) For whom is he praying?
  - c) Why is he praying for them?
  - d) What does he pray for them?
  
  - e) What do you learn from marking the "*what is*" and "*what are*" phrases in these verses?
  
2. In verses 17 and 18, Paul uses the word knowledge and know. Are these the same words? Delve into these verses by doing a word study on the word "*knowledge*" in 17 and "*know*" in 18. Write out the transliteration as well as the definition for each word.



3. In verse 18, Paul wants them *to know what is the hope of His calling*. Let's take a look at a few cross references and see if they can help clarify what Paul is saying.

a) Romans 8:28-30

b) Philippians 1:3-6

c) Philippians 1:19-21

d) II Timothy 1:9-12

e) I Thessalonians 5:23-24

f) Ephesians 4:1, 4

4. Notice that as you read verses 18 and 19 that Paul switches from *what is the hope of His calling* (singular) to *what are riches* (plural) back to *what is the surpassing greatness of His power* (singular). What are the riches of the glory of His inheritance of the saints? To answer this question, look at Colossians 1:9-12 and 2:2-3.

5. Now, in verse 19, we come to the last statement in the series: "*what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might.*" These are some powerful words. Paul presents his readers with a depth of understanding by his choice of word usage. Layer upon layer he builds to a climax of what we have access to in Christ. Do a word study on each of the following words, and let's see what Paul is saying.

a) surpassing

b) greatness

c) power

d) accordance

b) working

c) strength (power - KJV)

d) might (Mighty - KJV)

6. Let's pick up where we left off. Start in the middle of verse 19 and read to the end of the chapter. You have recorded this information. You have drawn out this information. Now take the time to praise Jesus for what He has done. Go through these verses point by point. Record your prayer below.

7. You can now take a look at what your commentaries have to say about this chapter or this last portion of the chapter - verses 16-23. Record any insights or questions below.

8. Go back and read through chapter one, one more time. Allow the richness of this chapter to sink into the very depths of your soul. This is just the beginning of understanding who you are in Christ and comprehending what He has done for you. No wonder we are called to have joy in all circumstances! We have victory because of all that He has done for us.

**Does the course of your life look different today than when you became saved?**

**As we move into Ephesians 2, we are going to look at the ugliness of sin - the flesh - and how we, before entering into a covenant with our Heavenly Father, how we wallowed in the mire of the lusts of the flesh. By God's grace and mercy and not because of anything we did, God sent Jesus to die on the cross and take upon Himself God's wrath, so that when we identify ourselves with His death and resurrection, God will raise us up to be seated in the heavenly places with Christ. As such, we can no longer walk in the lusts of the flesh, in the futility of mind, but we will walk in a manner worthy of our position in Christ. We will not walk like the Gentiles who are far from God being darkened in their understanding, but we will walk as children of the Light.**

**Let's go back to the original question. How does the course of your life look? Are you living a lifestyle of indulging the flesh, doing what you want to do? If that is so, Ephesians 2 has an important message for you. If you are truly a child of God, He has prepared the way in which you should walk. If you are not walking His way, what does that tell you about your position as His child? Something to ponder this week!**

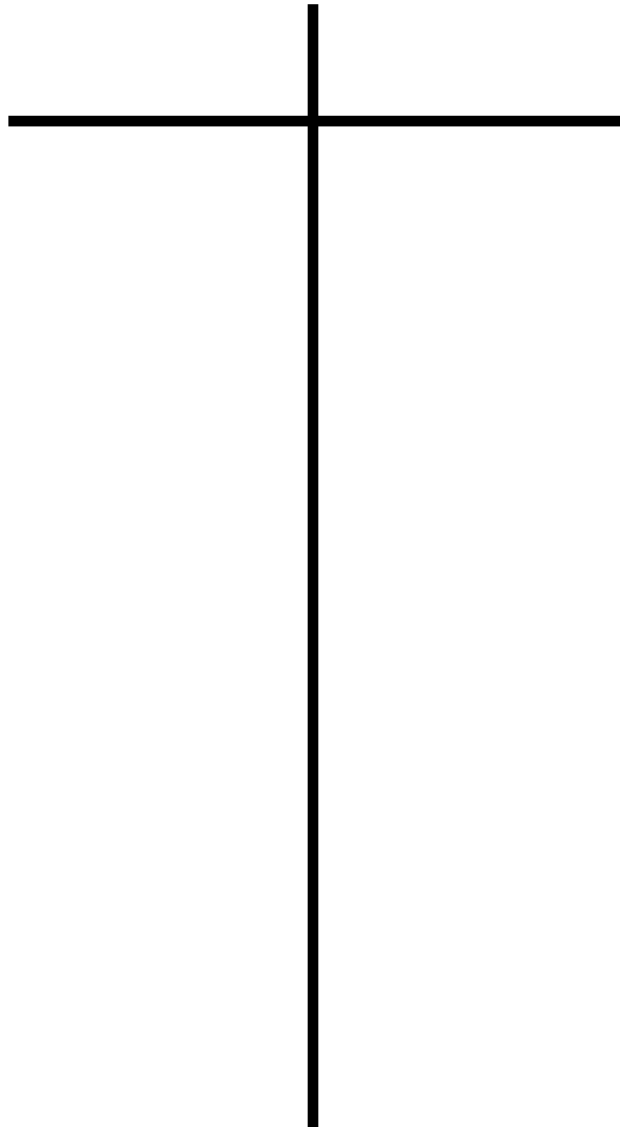
#### DAY ONE AND TWO

For the next two days, complete a thorough overview of chapter 2. I detailed the steps of a chapter study in Lesson 2 on pages 15-16. Please don't skip this step. The chapter study will open your eyes of understanding as you watch Paul continue to develop our position in Christ. Unless we understand who we are in Christ, we won't have victory in our lives. This is such a rich chapter, make sure you grasp every nugget of truth!

DAY THREE AND FOUR

1. Now that you have taken the time to grasp the overview message of chapter 2, you are now going to start digging into the chapter verse by verse. What a treasure trove (a store of valuable or delightful things) awaits you! Start your adventure by reading the entire chapter with fresh eyes.
2. Read Ephesians 2:1-10. If you haven't marked, "*formerly*" or "*walk*" in you overview, take time to do that now.
3. From Ephesians 1:13 to 2:10, Paul mentions two groups of people. He mentions those who live the way a true believer formerly lived, and he contrasts that to the life of a believer now. Your job will be to read through these verses and record (in detail) all that you learn about the "*former*" life and the life "*in Christ.*"

Formerly



In Christ



d. Armed with this information, read through Ephesians 2:1-10 and answer the question, "What is the relationship between faith and grace?"

7. You are going to look up the following passages and record what you learn about grace. Note how the word is used, how it is shown, and why the gospel is called the "Gospel of Grace." Be thorough in your answers. Part of understanding who we are in Christ is based on our correct understanding of what grace truly is.

a. John 1:1, 14-17

b. Acts 15:6-11

c. Acts 20:24



d. Romans 3:19-26

8. Now let's see the comparisons between Ephesians 2:1-10 and Titus 3:1-8. Record the main teachings (with their verses) of Ephesians and then record the parallel thoughts from Titus directly across from the teaching in Ephesians.

Ephesians 2:1-10	Titus 3:1-8

9. Take time to read through Ephesians chapters 1 and 2. Watch the flow from one chapter to another. Record any insights you might have as to how these two chapters tie together.

Take time to praise God for what He has done for you through His Son. If we are children of the King, we have much to be thankful for. How ugly we must have appeared to a Holy God as we lived out the wickedness of the flesh brought on by the lusts of this world (the pull of Satan). But God looked past that filth, reached His hand of love down from heaven, and through the cleansing power of Jesus' blood, lifted us up, clothed us in white garments, and seated us next to Him, the King of the universe!

If God did all that for us, then why does man have such a hard time accepting that gift, and why do God's children have such a struggle with the flesh? Why, when we are saved, don't the evil thoughts and intentions just disappear? Why are we hounded by the desire to do our own thing instead of bowing our knee to our sovereign Lord and Master? Why, if we are seated in the heavenly places, do we struggle walking according to His will?

Yes, we are seated in the heavenly places, but our feet are still in this world, and as long as we walk in this world, we are going to be tormented by the ruler of the world - Satan. God is indeed the Maker of this universe, but for a time, this world is under the power of Satan. But as a child of the King, your eternity is secure. You are now seated in the heavenlies with Him. You have victory over death. The second death has no power over you, but you still need to walk in Satan's domain. Isn't it nice to know that God has told us that He who is in us is greater than he who is in the world? - I John 4:4

Tomorrow, we will look at Satan's realm. A good strategy of war is to know your enemy.





**We, who were formerly far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Jesus Christ gave Himself as our peace, abolishing the rift that sin created between God and man, reconciling all men - Jew or Gentile - into one body. We are no longer strangers and aliens, but all believers have been fit together into the holy temple of the Lord. Paul wants his readers to know, and by extension us today, that all believers have been built together to become a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. That will be our study for this week. We belong together as God's church, fellow believers, God's body. We are part of a family; we are not outsiders looking in. What comfort and hope we can have in that fact.**

#### DAY ONE

1. Begin this week's study by reading through Ephesians chapter 2. Then read through verses 11-22 again.
2. Take time to read through Ephesians 2:11-22 and make sure the following words are marked. If they are not, take time to mark them and list what you learn from them.
  - a. *Peace*
  - b. *One*
  - c. *Remember*
  - d. *Enmity*
  - e. *building or dwelling*
  - f. *formerly*
3. Very quickly, summarize what verses 11-22 say. Don't go into details at this time, just generalities.
4. Do you know what a Gentile is? To the Jews in the 1st century you were either a Jew or you were a Gentile. If you were a Jew, you were part of a community. If you were not a Jew, then you were an outsider, a stranger, and alien. But where did the title of "Jew" come from? That story requires us to go back to Old Testament.

God choose Abraham and covenanted with him and part of that promise was that Abraham would become the father of a mighty nation. That covenant was passed to his son, Isaac (not Ishmael). The promise was then passed on to his son, Jacob (not Esau). Jacob's name was later changed to Israel, and his 12 sons became known as the 12 tribes of Israel. The people were then called Israelites.

Later in Israel's history the nation of Israel divided in two. The northern ten tribes retained the name Israel, while the southern two tribes became know as Judah. When Judah was taken into captivity by Babylon, the men were known as men of Judah or Jews. So by the time we get to the New Testament, the children of Israel are referred to as Jews. Anyone not a child of Israel would be considered a Gentile.

5. Now that you understand the difference between Jew and Gentile, explain the enmity described in Ephesians 2:14-16.
  
6. Read through Ephesians 2:11-22. List what you learn about the Ephesians before they were in Christ and the transformation once they were in Christ.

Before	After

7. What is the reason for the before and after? What was the reason for this transformation?
8. Draw a picture of what is happening in Ephesians 2:11-22. I know this may not be a favorite activity for some of you, but this activity causes you to process the information differently, and pictures tend to stick with you.

## DAY TWO

1. Once again, start the day by reading Ephesians 2 in its entirety. Watch the contrast between the former life of death and being made alive in Christ.

2. Look at the word “*remember*” that you marked in chapter 2. Who is Paul talking about? What does remembering do? Why are they called to remember?
  
3. The Gentiles (the Uncircumcision) were not only dead in their trespasses and sins but they were also what according to Ephesians 2:12
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  - d.
  - e.
  
4. The Gentiles were called the *Uncircumcision*. What does it mean for a man to be circumcised and what were the consequences for a Jewish man not to be circumcised. Read Genesis 17:1-14 below and mark the words *covenant* and *circumcision*.

## Genesis 17:1-14

- 1 Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him,  
“I am God Almighty;  
Walk before Me, and be blameless.
- 2 “I will establish My covenant between Me and you,  
And I will multiply you exceedingly.”
- 3 Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying,
- 4 “As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you,  
And you will be the father of a multitude of nations.
- 5 “No longer shall your name be called Abram,  
But your name shall be Abraham;  
For I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.



- 6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings will come forth from you.
- 7 I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you.
- 8 I will give to you and to your descendants after you, the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.”
- 9 God said further to Abraham, “Now as for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations.
- 10 This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: every male among you shall be circumcised.
- 11 And you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin, and it shall be the sign of the covenant between Me and you.
- 12 And every male among you who is eight days old shall be circumcised throughout your generations, a servant who is born in the house or who is bought with money from any foreigner, who is not of your descendants.
- 13 A servant who is born in your house or who is bought with your money shall surely be circumcised; thus shall My covenant be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.
- 14 But an uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant.”

5. Let’s answer a couple of questions.

- a. Physical circumcision was a sign of what?
- b. How was a Jew to be treated if he was not circumcised?
- c. How important was circumcision?
- d. Do Gentiles need to be circumcised?



e. Galatians 6:15

f. Philippians 3:3

g. Colossians 2:11

7. Sum up what you have learned about what it means to be truly circumcised.

DAY THREE

1. Read through Ephesians 2:11-15. Read it slowly out loud several times.
  
2. You saw that the Gentiles were excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and they were strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in this world. This raises the question of what were the covenants of promise. Today you are going to take some time to look at those covenants. There are three Old Testament covenants that you are going to look at. Read the references given and ask the 5 W's and H questions. Record your information on the chart on the next page.
  - a. The Abrahamic Covenant
    - 1) Genesis 12:1-3
    - 2) Genesis 15:1-18
    - 3) Galatians 3:5-9
  
  - b. The New Covenant
    - 1) Jeremiah 31:31-34
    - 2) Ezekiel 36:26-27
    - 3) Hebrews 10:10-18
    - 4) Luke 22:14, 19-20
  
  - c. The Davidic Covenant
    - 1) II Samuel 7:12-13, 16
    - 2) II Chronicles 21:7
    - 3) Romans 1:1-5
    - 4) Revelation 9:11-16
    - 5) Revelation 20:4

The Abrahamic Covenant	The New Covenant	The Davidic Covenant



d. What causes the enmity? Read these verses and record what you learn about the tension between Jew and Gentile.

1) Acts 11:1-18

2) Colossians 2:16-17

3) Leviticus 20:22-26

e. How was enmity between Jew and Gentile abolished?

3. Look at the places where you marked peace and list what you learn - make sure you take time to understand to whom verse 17 is referring.





6. How would you explain Jesus work of reconciliation to an unbeliever? Be thorough and use Scripture to support your explanation. Include how someone who is dead in their trespasses and sins, living under the power of the prince of this world can be reconciled to God.

7. What are you to be doing in your life according to II Corinthians 5:20? Are you doing it?

DAY FIVE

You were dead! You were in Satan's kingdom! You walked in the desires of the flesh. But in God's mercy and love He made you alive together with Christ and seated you in heavenly places. If you are a true believer, God has brought you near to Him through the blood of Jesus Christ. You are now a new man, a fellow citizen with the saints, part of God's household with Christ being the cornerstone. You are being fit together with all other believers to be His holy temple - a dwelling of God in the Spirit. If that doesn't light your fire and give you a hope and a future, I don't know what will.

Let's finish out this powerful second chapter of Ephesians so we can truly appreciate what God has done for us to the praise and honor of His name!

1. You were asked to mark any references to the word "*building*." Take time now to list everything you learn about the building. Be detailed, I don't want you to miss a thing. This is your hope and purpose.
  
2. Now let's take a look at the Cornerstone. We know that the Cornerstone is Christ, but what exactly is a cornerstone. Look up the word and record what you find out. If you can, find the location and importance in both a regular building and an arch. Be thorough in your description of what exactly a cornerstone is and the importance of that stone. It will help you understand the Scriptures we are about to look at.

3. Ephesians 2:20 states that “Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone.” Are there other references throughout Scripture that refer to this corner stone? Absolutely! Let’s take a look at those references and see what you can learn. Record anything pertinent to our study.

a. Psalm 118:22

b. Isaiah 8:13-15

c. Isaiah 28:16

d. Matthew 21:42-44 (quoting from Psalm 118)

e. Acts 4:8-12

f. Romans 9:30-33

g. I Peter 2:4-10 (This one is exciting! Record what you learn about the stone, the house, and you - the believer. I left you plenty of room.)

4. Let's reason through these verses together.

a. God's household was built on what foundation?

b. The corner stone was who?

c. As we saw in I Peter, we (true believers) make up the building. We are being fitted together. What does *fitted* (*fitly framed together* - KJV) in verse 21 mean? Use your word study helps to answer this question.

- d. In verse 22 we are told that this holy temple is being built together. *Being built* is in present tense. What does that mean? What does this tell you about the house?
- e. According to Ephesians 2:11-22, who makes up the house? (I'll give you a hint, I am looking for two groups.)
- f. So it is God's house. The stone that acts as a reference stone that all other stones will be built around thus determining the entire structure is Jesus Christ. He is the head stone, the first stone in the structure. Who was the first group brought into this building? Then who was brought near (who were formerly far off)? If you need some help or clarity, read Romans 1:16.
- g. So you have God - Jesus - Jews (apostles and prophets) - Gentiles. There is an order or a headship in this relationship. Have you seen an order given somewhere else in the book of Ephesians? I will give you a hint; it hasn't been in the first two chapters.
5. How does the Holy Spirit tie into all that we have studied this week? Read through Ephesians 1 and 2 and record how the Spirit fits into this process of building this holy temple.

6. How does it feel to know what God has done for you, not because you were righteous enough to deserve it, but because of His great love for you and the mercy He showed to you through His Son. Record your thoughts and feelings and turn them into a prayer of thanksgiving and awe to a great and mighty God who loves you with an everlasting love.

**What is the mystery which for ages had been hidden in God? It was revealed to Paul who shared it with all believers for ages to come. We need to understand this mystery.**

#### DAY ONE AND DAY TWO

For the next two days, prayerfully complete a thorough overview of chapter 3. You can review the steps of a chapter study in Lesson 2 on pages 15-16. Remember that these chapter studies are vital to your understanding of the book as a whole.

1. As well as making sure that all your key words are marked, add the following words.
  - a. *Church* (Add this to your card, and don't forget to make your lists.)
  - b. *Mystery* (Add to your card. Go back to Ephesians 1:9 and mark "*mystery*" there.)
2. To finish up the second day, take some time to read through Ephesians 1-3. Chapter 3 concludes Paul's treatise on God's grace given to us through Christ's redemptive work on the cross. Read these three chapters several times. Watch the flow of thought through these three chapters.

#### DAY THREE

1. Start today by reading Ephesians 3. Answer the following questions.
  - a. What do you know about Paul's circumstances. (Look at Ephesians 3:1 and 13)
  - b. Who is Paul addressing in this chapter?
  - c. What connection do you see between Ephesians 2 and 3?

2. According to Ephesians 2:8-10, we were saved by grace through faith and we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works which He prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them. What works did God give Paul to walk in?
  
3. Let's see what we can learn about Paul's life and his faithfulness to God's call.
  - a. Read John 17:4 - According to this verse, how did Jesus ( and how do we by extension) glorify God on earth?
  
  - b. What was Paul called to do in Galatians 2:7-8 and Romans 15:20? Did Paul understand and obey his calling?
  
  - c. Acts 26:1-20 - Read this passage where Paul gives his testimony to King Agrippa. What did Paul say he was called to do? What was his God-given purpose?
  
  - d. The last letter Paul penned was II Timothy. This was written during his imprisonment in Rome while he awaited his appearance before Caesar.
    - 1) Read II Timothy 1:8-12. What do you learn about Paul's duties?



2) Many people start strong but to finish strong is something else. Read II Timothy 4:4-18. What do you learn about Paul's faithfulness?

4. Take time to end this day with some application. How are you running your race? Have you even entered His race? God has a calling for you. Are you walking in the good works which God prepared beforehand?

#### DAY FOUR

1. Today we are going to look at the mystery that you marked in Ephesians 1 and 3. Let's start by looking at the word itself.

G#3466 - mysterion

Generally mysteries, religious secrets, confided only to the initiated and not to be communicated to ordinary mortals

A hidden or secret thing, not obvious to the understanding

A hidden purpose or counsel

2. Look up the following uses of the word "*mystery*" in Ephesians. Record what you learn about how the word is used. Read the verse in context.
  - a. Ephesians 1:9
  - b. Ephesians 3:3
  - c. Ephesians 3:4
  - d. Ephesians 3:9
  - e. Ephesians 5:32
  - f. Ephesians 6:19
  
3. In Ephesians 3:1-13, Paul goes into a lot of detail about what the mystery is. Record what you learn in detail.

4. In the first three chapters Paul used the word “*body*” several times. Read through Ephesians 1-3 and mark (if you haven’t already) “*body*” and “*church*.” Go back and look at those markings and record what you learn about them.

Body	Church

5. List every synonym that is used for the church.
6. Take a look at Colossians 1:24-29. This passage is a parallel passage to the one we are studying. Record what you learn.

7. Carefully read Ephesians 3:8-13 and watch closely for the word "*purpose.*" Record what you learn.
8. Compare Ephesians 3:12 and Hebrews 10:19-22. How should this apply to your life? Give thought to this question.

#### DAY FIVE

1. As we come to the end of the chapter, we enter into another one of Paul's prayers. Read through Ephesians 3:14-21.
2. How does Paul describe God in Ephesians 3:14-15.
3. List Paul's points in this prayer.



g. Romans 15:13-19

h. I Corinthians 2:4-5

i. II Corinthians 12:7-10

j. I Thessalonians 1:5-7

k. I Peter 1:3-5

l. II Peter 1:3

m. Revelation 7:12

6. What has God shown you through Paul's prayer?

7. You can see what your commentary has to say about Ephesians 3.

## DAY ONE AND DAY TWO

For the next two days, prayerfully complete a thorough overview of chapter 4. Remember that you can review the steps in lesson two if necessary.

1. If you remember, chapters 1-3 explains what God has done for us through Christ.
  - Until Him we were foreigners to the covenants of promise.
  - He is God's grace to us.
  - Without Him we were spiritually dead.
  - With Him we have been made alive.
  - Before creation He chose us in Christ.
  - By Him we have our redemption.
  - Through Him we have been sealed and given the Holy Spirit.
  - From Him we receive our adoption and inheritance
  - In Him we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing.
2. Chapter 4 starts with THEREFORE, I implore you to walk in a manner of the calling with which you have been called. Because of all that Christ has done for you, this is how you are to walk. Now we come to the practical application section of Ephesians. Let's start by reading Ephesians 4-6 out loud to put chapter 4 into context.
3. As you do this, add the following words to your key word marking card and mark them as you read. Make sure you make your lists.
  - a. *Truth*
  - b. *Unity*
  - c. *Walk*
  - d. *Just as*
  - e. *Therefore*
  - f. *Lay aside*
  - g. *Old self*
  - h. *New self*





c. Gentleness (meekness, KJV)

d. Patience (longsuffering, KJV)

e. Showing tolerance (forbearing, KJV)

6. According to this passage, what is your responsibility as a child of God to maintain unity in the body of Christ?

#### DAY FOUR

1. Read Ephesians 4:1-6 once again. If we are to preserve the unity of the Spirit, we need to know what truths unite us. What are they? List them below.

2. In Ephesians 4:3-6, we see that “*one body*” is mentioned. This is not the first time that Paul has talked about the body. You should have marked “*body*” throughout Ephesians. If you didn’t mark this, put it on the Bible marking card and go back through the first four chapters and mark this. Now make a list of what you learn about the body in chapters 1-4.

3. Who is the “*one Spirit?*”

a. Record all that you learned about the Spirit in chapters 1-4.

b. Let’s look ahead and mark the Spirit in chapters five and six. Record what you learn about the Spirit.

c. Now let’s see what other parts of the Scripture tell us about the Holy Spirit.

1) John 14:15-17, 25-26



DAY FIVE

1. How are you doing with memorizing? When you are diligent to commit God's Word to memory, His Word will flow to your mind when you need it.
2. In verse 5, Paul talks about one Lord, one faith, one baptism. We will be looking at these one at a time. Let's take a look at "one Lord".
  - a. Look up the meaning of the word "Lord".
  - b. Read Romans 10:8-13. Record what you learn about "one Lord" as a basis of our unity.
  - c. What do you learn from Philippians 2:9-11?
3. Now we turn to "one faith".
  - a. Look back a lesson three and see what you recorded about believe/faith.
  - b. What is the one faith that is held by those in one body, whether Jew or Gentile?
4. Paul gives us a commentary on what "one baptism" means. Read I Corinthians 12:13 and record what you learn about the baptism.

5. In verse six we have one more one - "one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all." Let's look at some cross references about the one God and Father.

a. Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:39

b. Isaiah 43:10

c. Isaiah 45:5-6

d. Mark 12:29

e. John 5:44

f. Romans 3:29-30

g. I Corinthians 8:6

6. Read John 17. Jesus is praying. This has been called the High Priestly Prayer. I want you to read the whole chapter. It is a powerful prayer. When you are done reading, go back and focus on verses 20-23. Prayerfully think through what is being said. Record what you learn about oneness in this passage.

DAY ONE

1. Remember to start your day in prayer. Carefully read Ephesians 4:7-16. What is Paul's main emphasis in these verses?
  
2. Now read Ephesians 4:1-16. Record how verses 7-16 tie in with verses 1-6.
  
3. The word "*gifts*" in verses 7-8 is the Greek word Dorea (#G1431). It is a free gift with the emphasis on its gratuitous character. Spiritual or supernatural gift.
  
4. According to these verses, we learn about Christ giving gifts to men?
  - a. When were these gifts given?
  
  - b. Look up the following Scriptures and record what you learn about the giving of gifts.

1) John 7:37-39

2) I Corinthians 12:4-11





c. I Peter 3:18-22

3. Now let's take a look at what the Bible teaches about Hades. Record the details that help you understand what Hades is.

a. Matthew 16:18

b. Luke 16:19-31

c. Revelation 1:18

d. Revelation 20:13-14

4. From everything you have learned, explain what you think Ephesians 4:9-10 means.

5. You can consult your commentaries at on Ephesians 4:8-10 at this time.

DAY THREE

1. Let's continue with the next verses, Ephesians 4:11-13. We are going to look at the gifts that are mentioned in these verses. Use your word study tools and see what you can learn about each one.

a. Apostles

b. Prophets

c. Evangelists

d. Pastors

e. Teachers



f. Held together - 4:16

4. What is the purpose of these gifted people within the body of Christ? How does the proper exercising of these gifts benefit the body? What will happen if they are not exercised? How will this effect the body? Answer completely and thoroughly.

DAY FOUR

1. Read through Ephesians 4:1-16 out loud. As you read through these verses, why do you think Paul brings up “speaking the truth in love”?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. From Ephesians 4:7-16, what causes the growth of the body? Look at Colossians 2:19.



## DAY FIVE

As we approach this section of Ephesians, we are beginning to see the terminology of taking off or laying aside of the old and putting on of the new. For those who have studied Covenant with us, you know that this is Covenant terminology. This is the excitement of a changed lifestyle. This is the proof that our faith is genuine. This is what it means to be born again - born of the Spirit.

Unfortunately, for those who haven't taken Covenant, we don't have time to teach it in the midst of our Ephesian lessons, but I am going to have you look at several Scripture today, to see how this idea of an exchanged lifestyle fleshes out in Scripture. You are going to see there is a taking off of one thing and putting on something else.

Carefully read these passages, putting them into their context. Record what you learn from each one. If you are not familiar with some of these examples, you may need to read more than the verses that I gave you. Enjoy your study and discover why it is that the promise of the New Covenant says that God will cause you to walk in His ways. You are no longer you - you have become something completely new.

1. Ezekiel 36:27 (25-28) - this is where it all starts - explain what verse 27 means and how that can happen. The next passage may help you explain the change.

2. John 3:1-21

3. Romans 6 (whole chapter) - watch the change in one's life!

4. Romans 8:13-17

5. Romans 12:1-2

6. Romans 13:12-24

7. I Corinthians 6:14-20

8. I Corinthians 15:53-54

9. II Corinthians 5:16-21

10. Galatians 2:20

11. Galatians 5:16-26



12. Ephesians 4:17-25

13. Ephesians 6:10-18

14. Colossians 3:5-17

15. I Thessalonians 5:8-10

16. James 1:21-25

17. I Peter 2:1-3

18. I Peter 2:21-24

**This is not an exhaustive list although you may feel a bit exhausted at this point in time. These are vital verses that help us understand what it means to be born again - to die to self and live for Christ - to crucify ourselves so that we can walk in newness of life.**

19. Explain this changed lifestyle. Where does it come from? How does it begin? What does it mean to our every day walk? Don't leave out any details. Prayerfully examine your life as you answer these questions.

**Walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called. Last week we looked at the lifestyle of our walk. We tried to grasp the meaning of the “exchanged life.” As we delve into Ephesians 4:17-32, Paul is going to explain what that walk should look like in our everyday world. He already touched on the importance of taking that Christ given gift that the Spirit empowers in our lives and using that to build God’s kingdom on earth. If we are seated in the heavenly places with Him, how should we be walking on this earth today. That is what we are going to look at this week.**

#### DAY ONE

1. Read through Ephesians 4. As you do, think back over what you learned last week. Make sure that you have marked the following words/phrases. If you have missed any, make sure to mark them and record what you learn.
  - a. *Truth*
  - b. *Walk*
  - c. *Lay aside*
  - d. *Old self*
  - e. *New self*
2. Now read through Ephesians 4:17-32 several times, out loud.
3. Record the main ideas in these verses.
4. Let’s spend some time focusing on verses 17-24.
  - a. Paul talks about two groups of people. Who are they?
  - b. What do you learn about the Gentiles from these verses? Be detailed.



## DAY TWO AND THREE

Take your time through this assignment. There is much to learn and much to apply.

1. You should have marked *old self* and *new self* in your reading. If you haven't, go back through Ephesians 4:17-24 and do that.
2. On page 94, there is a chart to record the comparison to the old and new you. As you work through this assignment, you are going to be looking at several Scriptures. Record what you learn from each of these passages on that chart. It would be good to use different colors for each passage or draw a line between passages so you know what came from where. If the same thing is said in two or more passages, please record it in both places. If something is important, Paul will repeat it!
  - a. Ephesians 4:20-24
  - b. Romans 6:1-11
  - c. Colossians 3:9-10
3. If there are words that you are not familiar with, use what ever resources you have to look those up and define them.
4. Now summarize what you have learned so you could explain the difference in lifestyle to someone who is seeking answers to how they should live.

### Comparison of the Old and New Self

Old Self	New Self

5. How does this change your thinking about your life and how you are “walking?”

6. If there are places that you are struggling, make that a matter of prayer.

#### DAY FOUR

1. Ephesians 4:25 begins with “therefore.” What is the therefore there for? If you need to, go back and read from the beginning of the chapter. Watch the flow of thought as you approach verse 25.

2. Read through Ephesians 4:25-5:2 out loud. This is the Christian walk. Record each instruction that is given that shows us how we are to walk and why we are to do that. Record your verse number with each. Be detailed. You don't want to miss a thing! If there are words you are unsure of, use your tools to look them up.



3. In verse 32, it talks about forgiving. You probably didn't look up that word because you assumed you knew what it meant. Take the time to look it up. Write out the word and the definition and then answer the following questions about the verse.

a. Forgiveness - word and definition

b. What is the basis of forgiveness according to this verse? To what degree is a person to forgive?

c. Why do you think Ephesians 5:1 starts with therefore?

d. Look up Luke 23:33-35. This passage also uses the word forgive. Look up this word (it is different from the other one). Record the context in which this word was used.

e. Look up Matthew 6:12-15. This uses the same word as Luke. What do you learn about forgiveness?

- f. Now look at Matthew 18:21-35. The same word again. What do you learn here?
4. Sum up what you have learned about forgiveness and why it is important in a believers life. Then I want you to wrestle with a difficult question. Can a Christian live a life filled with un-forgiveness?

#### DAY FIVE

Begin a complete chapter study on Ephesians chapter 5. You will have one day next week to finish it.

**Be imitators of God. How are we supposed to do that? Paul is going to tell us exactly what that means. He is going to tell us how to do that. He tells us to walk in love, just as Christ loved you and offered Himself as an offering and sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. Paul paints a vivid picture of that being lived out in our lives in Romans 12:1-2. He says, “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. 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.” This week we learn what it means to present our bodies as a living and holy sacrifice.**

**Study well and walk in a manner pleasing to God.**

#### DAY ONE

Last week, you were to begin a thorough overview of Ephesians 5. Take time today to finish that overview. If you finished it last week, then take time to read over the chapter several times and meditate on the truths you find there. This is a rich, life-changing chapter.

#### DAY TWO

1. If we are to be imitators of God, we need to walk in love. Read through Ephesians 5:1-2 and Romans 12:1-2 (the verses that were in the introduction). Prayerfully think through these verses and record how it is possible for us to be imitators of God. Be thorough in your answer.

2. Read Ephesians 5:3-14 several times, out loud. There are several phrases that we want to look at.
  - a. In these verses, who is “*you*”?
  - b. In verses 3-4, what is *not even be named among you* and why?
  - c. In verses 5, what do you *know with certainty*?
  - d. In verse 6, what are you not to be deceived by and why?
  
3. Let’s look at a parallel passage written by Paul to the Corinthian people. Read I Corinthians 6:9-11. What do you learn from these verses?

4. Paul felt this important enough to stress to both the Ephesians and the Corinthians. Do you think that it is applicable to us today? Why or why not?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Verse 7 begins with a therefore. You know what question I'm going to ask you, don't you? What is the therefore there for?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. *Do not be partakers with them; for you were formerly darkness . . .* but then something wonderful happened. You were transferred into the kingdom of Light though the shed blood of Jesus Christ. You are going to take a look at the contrast of these two lifestyles. Read Ephesians 5:7-14 and record what you learn on the chart on page 102. We are going to look at other passages as well and will be recording that information on the same chart.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Read the following verses and note what you learn on the chart.
  - a. John 1:1-8
  
  - b. John 3:19-21
  
  - c. Colossians 1:12-14
  
  - d. II Corinthians 6:14
  
  - e. I John 1:5-7
  
  - f. I Thessalonians 5:4-11 ( you will see the parallel even though it is talking about "the day of the Lord")

Formerly Children of Darkness	Now Children of Light

DAY THREE

1. Read through Ephesians 5:15-21 several times. There are contrasts throughout these verses - don't do this, but do that because . . . Record the contrasts and then record the how and why you should live in the correct manner.

2. Now let's take the time to look at some of these words. If you have word study tools, use them to look up and record what you learn.

a. *Dissipation* (*excess* - KJV - verse 18)

b. *Filled* (verse 18)

c. *Subject* (*submitting* - KJV - verse 21)

3. The verb *be filled* in verse 18 is a present tense, imperative mood, passive voice. Present tense is continuous action, imperative mood is a command, and passive voice means that the subject is being acted upon. Think about that and read the verse again. What does the voice, mood, and tense tell you about being filled?
  
4. According to Ephesians 5:15-21, the person filled with the Holy Spirit will be doing what?
  
5. *Speaking, singing, making, and giving* are all present participles which means that there is an ongoing action that will take place as *the being filled* is taking place. What does this tell you about these verses?
  
6. We are to be filled with the Spirit. Let's read through Ephesians and record every command or instruction given by Paul regarding the Holy Spirit.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Let's take a look at other Scriptures that talk about *being filled with the Holy Spirit*. Be sure to check the context of each verse and record what you learn about what it means to be filled with the Spirit.
  - a. Luke 1:15, 41, 67
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Acts 2:2-4







Wife	Husband
Christ	Church



- f. Why is there a need for a headship or order of authority?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- g. What is the wife's responsibility to this relationship?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- h. What is the husband's responsibility according to verse 25?

#### DAY FIVE

Today you are going to look at the husbands part in this relationship and why that is important. Do you remember Ephesians 3:15? Every family in heaven and earth derives its name from the Father of heaven. The family was God's idea. The family unit is God's picture on earth of Christ's relationship to the church (His bride). God has a special calling on Christian families. They are to show His love to this world.

The woman's job is to show unconditional submission as we are to submit unconditionally to God. The man's job is to love unconditionally as Jesus unconditionally loves the church to the point of giving His life as a ransom - a bridal price.

1. Let's look at the husbands part in this relationship and why that is important. He is to love his wife. This love is agape love. When Scripture says that God is love, it is saying that God is agape. This is an unconditional, free flowing love that overlooks a multitude of sin. A love that freely gave His only begotten Son to die in our place so that we may have life in Him. This verb *love* is in present tense. What does that mean?



4. The man's relationship to his wife is like that of Christ to the church. Record what you learn about Christ's relationship to the church.

5. Whether you are married or not, this pertains to you. If you are a believer, then you are the bride (the church) and Christ is the Bridegroom. Let's take a look at some verses that show the relationship between Christ and the church.

a. Mark 2:18-20; John 3:25-30

b. II Corinthians 11:1-3

c. Revelation 19:6-9

Our Bridegroom is coming. As with Jewish traditions the bridegroom would go to his father's house and prepare a place to bring his bride so they could begin their new life together. Think about that and end your time of study this week by reading John 14:2-3 and praise your Heavenly Father and the Beloved Son for Their great love for you!





**How important is it to put on the full armor of God. Is it all necessary?**

**If you want to stand firm in the Lord, it is essential that we understand the armor of God and the importance of wearing it every day. You would not go out into battle without protection and a weapon. You are in a battle everyday with Satan and the power he wields as we walk in this world on his turf. The battle is intense. The struggle is in the mind. Are we going to walk in the Spirit or walk in the flesh? If we choose to walk in the Spirit, we made ourselves an enemy to Satan, and a target for his attacks.**

**Arm yourself, and be ready for the battle. Remember that “. . . *greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.*”**

#### DAY ONE

Use today to do a complete overview of Ephesians 6. Prayerfully mull over it as you do the work. As Paul pens his last words, he wraps up by giving us the key to walking in a manner worthy of your calling. You can only have victory in your walk by putting on the full armor of God.

#### DAY TWO AND THREE

Ephesians 6:1-9 wraps up the discussion that began in Ephesians 5:22-33 on various relationships. This is a two-day assignment. Make sure to take your time and don't miss a thing!

1. Read Ephesians 5:22-6:9 out loud.
2. Now you are going to focus on Ephesians 5:22-6:9 again. Record the six relationships that are discussed.

3. Last week we looked at the relationship between husbands and wives and Christ's relationship to the church. Today we are going to look at children, fathers, slaves, and masters.
4. "*Children obey your parents. . .*" Ephesians 6:1-3
  - a. How are they supposed to obey their parents? What does that mean?
  - b. Why are they supposed to obey their parents?
  - c. Use your word study tools to look up the word *obey*. This is present tense (continuous action) imperative mood (a command), active voice (the subject is responsible for completing the action).
  - d. The beginning of verse 2 gives another instruction. How is it different or how does it complement the instruction given in verse 1? You may want to look at the definition of honor in order to answer this question.
  - e. What are the promises given in verses 2 and 3?
  - f. Compare these verses to Exodus 20:12 and Deuteronomy 5:16.



- f. There was a paper written by Pastor Reb Bradley. It is called "You Exasperate Your Children When You . . ." and located on pages 129-130 Of this lesson. This is an important read for parents, grandparents, teachers, or anyone who spends time with children. You can find out more about Pastor Bradley's ministry on [familyministries.com](http://familyministries.com) located in Fair Oaks, CA. Take time to read this and share it with others.
- g. God outlines child rearing skills in the book of Proverbs. Take a look at each of these passages and record what you learn about a parent's responsibility to their children.
- 1) Proverbs 4:1-6
  - 2) Proverbs 6:20-23
  - 3) Proverbs 13:24
  - 4) Proverbs 19:18, 26, 27
  - 5) Proverbs 22:6
  - 6) Proverbs 23:13
  - 7) Proverbs 29:17

6. Time to turn your attention to slaves. We may not live in a society of slavery, but we do live in a society with employer and employee relationships. We are going to apply these principles to our modern situation of one person being under the authority of another or in the case of masters, one being in authority over another. Read through Ephesians 6:5-8.

a. What instructions are slaves given?

b. How are they supposed to be obedient?

c. Why are they to be obedient? Where does the obedience come from?

d. How are they to render service?

e. Are there promises for those who are obedient to these commands?

f. Read Colossians 3:22-25. How does this passage relate to Ephesians?

g. There are two words that are used in Colossians and Ephesians that bear taking time to look them up. Check your word studies and record what you learn.

1) eye service (external service - Colossians)

2) men-pleasers





4. Let's take a look at our struggle (battle). Read through these Scriptures, record what you learn, and we will pull it all together when you are done.
  - a. Ephesians 1:20-22
  - b. Ephesians 3:10
  - c. Ephesians 6:12
  - d. Luke 11:15-20
  - e. Revelation 12:7-9
  - f. Daniel 10:1-14, 20
  - g. I John 5:19
  - h. Ephesians 2:1-6
  - i. John 12:27-33
  - j. Colossians 2:13-15



k. I Peter 3:21-22

5. Let's put it all together. From all the verses that you read, explain the war that every Christian has entered. Who is our adversary? What is he like? What is his strategy? Who has he enlisted to help him? (Isn't it good to know that God is on our side?)

6. Now that we understand our enemy and the battle in which we are engaged, we turn to our preparation. There are several instructions throughout these verses. Look at them and the tense, mood, and voice.

verse 10 - be strong in the Lord - present imperative active  
- the action is continual, habitual

**it is a lifestyle that you continually follow this command**

verse 11 - put on the full armor of God - aorist imperative middle  
- specific, definite, decisive choice  
- do this now, at once, once for all, and in one quick action  
- middle voice means that you initiate and participate in the results of the action

**you have followed this command and now are reaping the benefits**

verse 13 - take up the full armor of God - aorist imperative active  
- specific, definite, decisive choice  
- do this now, at once, once for all, and in one quick action  
- active voice means that the subject accomplishes the verb

**you have completed this command**

verse 14 - stand firm - aorist imperative active  
- see notes from verse 13

verse 17 - take - aorist imperative middle  
- see notes from verse 11

7. Read through Ephesians 6:10-17 thoughtfully, one more time. This time apply what you learned from step #6.
8. One last assignment for the day. List the pieces of armor in Ephesians 6:14-17.

DAY FIVE AND SIX (Yes, there is a little more work this week!)

1. Today we are going to look at the pieces of armor. To the right you see a picture of a Roman soldier. Take time to label the armor according to Ephesians 6:14-17.



2. As you do this assignment, it would be helpful to find some historical background of the Roman soldiers that explained the importance of each piece of armor. Each had a job, and that will correspond to what Paul is communicating. If you can't find anything on your own, we will be going over it in class.

3. ***Girding your loins with truth*** (6:14)

- a. Truth has been a key word in Ephesians. Look up the usage and record what you learn.

1) Ephesians 1:13

2) Ephesians 4:15

3) Ephesians 4:21

4) Ephesians 4:24

5) Ephesians 4:25

6) Ephesians 5:9

b. Read John 17:14-17. What do you learn about *truth* and the *evil one* in these verses?

c. Take a look at Hosea 4:1-6. Why were God's people being destroyed? Do you see parallels today?

d. Why should you gird your loins with truth?

4. ***Having put on the breastplate of righteousness*** (6:14)

a. The breastplate covered vital organs, especially the heart. Keep that in mind as you look up a couple of verses and process this piece of armor.

b. What has Paul told the Ephesians about righteousness. Look up Ephesians 4:24 and 5:9. Record what you learn.

c. What gives the enemy power over a person? Look at Hebrews 2:14-17.

1) What did Jesus become?

2) Why did He die?

3) What gave the devil the power of death? (Remember Romans 6:23)

4) What did Jesus do with sin?

d. Keeping the Hebrews' verses in mind, look at the following verses and record what you learn about righteousness.

1) II Corinthians 5:21

2) I John 3:7-10

3) Revelation 12:10 - How is the enemy described in this passage?  
Understanding this will help you answer the next question.

4) How does righteousness help a believer in spiritual warfare?

5. ***Having shod your feet with the preparation of the Gospel of peace*** (6:15)

a. What has Paul told us about peace in Ephesians? Look at Ephesians 2:14-17 and 4:3. Record what you learn.

b. Now let's see what he has said about the gospel.

1) Ephesians 1:13

2) Ephesians 3:6

3) Ephesians 6:15

4) Ephesians 6:19

c. Take a look at how Paul defines the Gospel in I Corinthians 15:1-4.

d. Explain what it means to shod your feet with the preparation of the Gospel of peace.

6. ***Taking up the shield of faith*** (6:16)

a. What is faith? We have defined this before in our lessons.

b. What do you think the flaming arrows of the evil one are?

c. Where is this battle taking place? Read II Corinthians 10:3-5 to help answer that question.

d. How do you take up the shield of faith? What does that mean in your everyday life?

7. ***Take the helmet of salvation*** (6:17)

- a. Once everything is put on, the armor bearer will hand the soldier the helmet and the sword. Look at your verb voice. The armor bearer would have handed you the pieces of armor that you have put on, and now that you are dressed, will hand you these last two pieces. Aren't Greek parts of speech wonderful! So let's take the helmet and put it on.
- b. What would a helmet protect? What do you think this means?
- c. Why is it called the helmet of salvation? Look up the following verses and see if you can answer that question.

1) Isaiah 59:17

2) Ephesians 1:13, 18

3) I Thessalonians 5:8

8. ***Sword of the Spirit which is the word of God*** (6:17)

- a. Now let's take up the sword. This is a short, sharp two-edged sword. This is used in close proximity to your enemy. What do you think the sword symbolizes in our battle?
- b. How important is the word in the midst of our battle? Think about your adversary, the devil, and his tactics.

c. Jesus was led into the wilderness and encountered the same adversary. How did Jesus deal with him? Read Matthew 4:4 and then answer that question.

d. This is the only offensive weapon we have. What does that tell you?

9. Read Ephesians 6:18-20. What are some of the last practical suggestions Paul gives as he brings his letter to a close? Paul also asks for prayer on his behalf. What does he ask?

10. Read Ephesians 6:21-24.

Well, you made it. We completed a wonderful, practical book. Take these truths and allow them to sink deep into your heart.

Let's pray for each other that we walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called.



These come from a seminar given by Pastor Reb Bradley. You can look at more of his information on [familyministries.com](http://familyministries.com) located in Fair Oaks, CA.

## You exasperate your children when you...

1. Assert parental authority weakly. Don't let the children ask you repeatedly to do something. Don't let them try to wear you down. If you have made a decision, stick to it unless you have a good reason for changing it!
2. Consistently believing evil of them. Being suspicious of them, making accusations of wrongdoing. Be happy with them, they are a gift from God.
3. Do not listen to them. Let them explain or complain about frustrations. This must be done in a polite and appropriate manner.
4. Continually criticize them when they share their innermost feelings.
5. Communicate to them that they are unwanted. You say things like I don't want any more kids; I had to give up this opportunity or that because of you kids.
6. Threaten them with rejection. If they are doing something wrong or will not abide by the rules in a certain period of time, have them leave the house. Love them but not the sin.
7. Never communicate your approval of them. You always find something wrong with their actions.
8. Neglect them. Allow the phone to interrupt your time together. Let the machine take a message. Dads, take them with you to the store and on other errands, use the time to teach, to listen, and to communicate.
9. Overindulge them. Do not allow them to be part of the decision making. Example, when mom and dad are buying something. Age enters into this equation.
10. Reward insolence, sass, pouting, anger, raising their voice to you. Do not allow the conversation to go on, discipline not reward.
11. Cease the time of chastisement before it has produced humility. Do not cease unless you see fruit. Fruit would be a change in action or attitude.
12. Never admit you are wrong. Tell your children when you have made a mistake and ask their forgiveness if you have sinned in your actions and attitudes.

13. Model hypocrisy. When you say one thing, and do another.
14. Fail to keep your promises. Be cautious with your words. You may not think you are making a promise, but your children may interpret your words or actions as promises.
15. Demand too much of them. Don't expect them to act like adults if they are children. Be reasonable in your expectations of their actions, attitudes, and how much responsibility you entrust or expect of them.
16. Over protect them. Don't bail them out of problems. Let them learn the hard way now. The cost will be less now than later in life.
17. Batter them with words. Use your words sparingly.
18. Abuse them verbally. Don't call them names. Don't add explanation marks to their names. Do not predict failure. Compliment them! Praise them! Tell them all the things they do well, not the failures.
19. Make discipline too severe.
20. Show favoritism towards their brothers and sisters; don't compare one child to another in their achievements, abilities, and grades.
21. Embarrass them. Be careful and cautious with how you speak about them to others especially when they are present.
22. Give no time warnings. Don't come in the room and tell them to stop immediately. Give them a few minutes to adjust to the next expectation. Tell them bed in 5 minutes; we are leaving in 10 minutes, finish up, clean up.
23. Are a buddy to them. YOU are their parent! However, you also need to build relationships with your children so you become a trusted friend and confidante. Titus 2:4 tells the wives to phileo (friendship love) their children.
24. Withhold firm discipline and proper training. Don't repeat! If you tell them dinner is ready, and they don't come, no dinner. Don't debate things with them. You are the parent. You are to train them up in the way they should go!
25. Discipline inconsistently. Don't use different punishments for the same offense. Each child should receive the same punishment for the same crime. Being tired or busy is no excuse for inconsistent punishments. Keep a journal to ensure consistency.

## Ephesians 1

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- 1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,  
To the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace
- 2 to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,
- 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we  
would be holy and blameless before Him. In love
- 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself,  
according to the kind intention of His will,
- 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in  
the Beloved.
- 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our  
trespasses, according to the riches of His grace
- 8 which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight
- 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind  
intention which He purposed in Him
- 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is,  
the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on  
the earth. In Him
- 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to  
His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will,
- 12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the  
praise of His glory.

- 13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,
- 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory.
- 
- 15 For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints,
- 16 do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers;
- 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.
- 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,
- 19 and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might
- 20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
- 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.
- 22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,
- 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

## Ephesians 2

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- 1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,
- 2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.
- 3 Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.
- 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,
- 5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),
- 6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
- 7 so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
- 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;
- 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.
- 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

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- 11 Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called “Uncircumcision” by the so-called “Circumcision,” which is performed in the flesh by human hands—

- 12 remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.
- 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
- 14 For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall,
- 15 by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace,
- 16 and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.
- 17 And He came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near;
- 18 for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.
- 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household,
- 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,
- 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord,
- 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

### **Ephesians 3**

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- 1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—
- 2 if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace which was given to me for you;
- 3 that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.
- 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,
- 5 which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit;
- 6 to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,
- 7 of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God’s grace which was given to me according to the working of His power.
- 8 To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ,
- 9 and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things;
- 10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.
- 11 This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,

12 in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.

13 Therefore I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they are your glory.

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14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,

15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,

16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,

17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,

19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

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20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,

21 to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.



## Ephesians 4

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- 1 Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,
  - 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love,
  - 3 being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
  - 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling;
  - 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
  - 6 one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.
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- 7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.
  - 8 Therefore it says,  
    "When He ascended on high,  
    He led captive a host of captives,  
    And He gave gifts to men."
  - 9 (Now this expression, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth?
  - 10 He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.)
  - 11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,
  - 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

- 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.
- 14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;
- 15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,
- 16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.
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- 17 So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind,
- 18 being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart;
- 19 and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.
- 20 But you did not learn Christ in this way,
- 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus,
- 22 that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit,
- 23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind,
- 24 and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.
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- 25 Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.
- 26 Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,
- 27 and do not give the devil an opportunity.
- 28 He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.
- 29 Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.
- 30 Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
- 31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.
- 32 Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

## Ephesians 5

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- 1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children;
  - 2 and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.
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- 3 But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints;
  - 4 and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.
  - 5 For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.
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- 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.
  - 7 Therefore do not be partakers with them;
  - 8 for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light
  - 9 (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth),
  - 10 trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.
  - 11 Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them;
  - 12 for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret.
  - 13 But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light.

14 For this reason it says,

“Awake, sleeper,

And arise from the dead,

And Christ will shine on you.”

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15 Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise,

16 making the most of your time, because the days are evil.

17 So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

20 always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

21 and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

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22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.

24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

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25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

- 28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;
- 29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church,
- 30 because we are members of His body.
- 31 For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.
- 32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.
- 33 Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

## Ephesians 6 \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.
- 2 Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise),
- 3 so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.

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- 4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

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- 5 Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ;
- 6 not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.
- 7 With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men,
- 8 knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.

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- 9 And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

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- 10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.
- 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.
- 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.
- 13 Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

14 Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16 in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

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18 With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,

19 and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,

20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

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21 But that you also may know about my circumstances, how I am doing, Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make everything known to you.

22 I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know about us, and that he may comfort your hearts.

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23 Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

24 Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love.