



EPHESIANS

The Riches of God's Grace in Christ



THE WORSHIP
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07



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank God for all those at Peine Ridge Church who helped to bring this little book together, using their God-given gifts and talents with a willing and humble attitude to serve the body of Christ and worship our Lord.

We thank God for the Apostle Paul—for saving him, for giving him Divine revelations of the great mystery of the immeasurable riches of God's grace in Christ, and for making him a minister of these riches of the gospel of grace for the everlasting good of all who believe.

We thank God for creating His Church, and for making us a part of it. What a wonderful privilege it is to be children of God's household, living stones of the holy temple, and part of the many who make up the dwelling place of God by His Spirit.

Above all, we thank God, the Father of glory, for sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to powerfully save us, the children of wrath, because of His great love and rich mercy. May we so treasure, trust in, and live according to the unsearchable riches of God's grace in Christ that we bless His name, showing the glory of His grace throughout this generation and in the coming ages.

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ABOUT THIS BOOK

The Function

As Peine Ridge Church, we exist to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ in our city and throughout the world. And as the elders of Peine Ridge Church, it is our God-given task to equip our people to glorify God by making disciples (Ephesians 4:11-16). This book is one way that we, the elders of Peine Ridge Church, can help equip our people.

- **Teaching Minds:** Growing in our understanding of God, His Word, and the doctrines of His Word is essential to being loving, trusting, and obedient followers of Jesus Christ, ready for every good work (2 Timothy 3:14–17). Christians must always be increasing in the knowledge of God (Colossians 1:10), and this book's aim is to be a useful tool for that pursuit.
- **Touching Hearts:** Being connected with others is essential to the health and growth of the body (Hebrews 3:13; 10:24–25; Colossians 3:16). The goal is for every member of our church to be regularly using this book. This creates, maintains, and protects commonality in learning, accountability for participation, encouragement in growth, and unity in relationships.
- **Transforming Lives:** Our goal is not merely to educate or connect, but to see people transformed by truth through relationships. However, transformation is only possible by actually applying what is learned; in other words, we must be “doers of the Word” (James 1:22–25). Unless we actively respond to the Lord's teaching by applying it to life in practical ways, we will never be equipped, never grow, never obey, and never be transformed. The goal for this book is to provide a significant and practical tool for use by every individual and family in our church body to pursue transformation by applying what we are learning together.

The Format

Realizing that God works through more than just one spiritual discipline to make disciples, this book is designed to be fairly comprehensive. It includes an introduction to the book we are preaching through, suggested Scripture for memorization, study and discussion questions for each week's sermon text, catechism questions and answers, recommended resources for further study, and a prayer guide.

Because families and individuals differ in their preferred areas and levels of engagement, this book is also designed to be holistic. It can be used to take notes during the weekly sermons, for daily quiet times of study alone with God, as a guide for a daily time of worshiping the Lord together at home with your family, and for directing deeper discussion during weekly small groups. It contains application points to be carried out all day, every day, no matter your context or company.

The Focus

Each book will have its own theme, dictated by the book of the Bible the church is working its way through. Some sections will remain the same, while other content will be determined by the theme, which will change from book to book. Our overall focus, however, remains the same: Getting the most out of God's Word. There is too often a disconnect that occurs from Sunday to Sunday and from sermon to sermon. What is being preached on Sunday mornings will be discussed in different settings and in different ways, and we believe this book will help keep things connected, as well as serve to deepen our understanding of God's Word and our love for Him and others.

This is our focus because we believe that the Bible is what the Holy Spirit uses to equip and change us, to encourage and challenge us, and to exhort and comfort us as disciples of Jesus Christ, all for the glory of God (2 Timothy 3:14–17; Hebrews 4:12–13).

INTRODUCTION

The New Testament book of Ephesians was written by the Apostle Paul (1:1) in AD 62. During this time he was imprisoned in Rome (3:1, 4:1, 6:20; Acts 28) for proclaiming the very things he writes about in his letter to the Ephesian Christians, the main focus of which is God's glorious grace in Christ and the outworkings of it in His Church.

AUTHOR

Second only to Jesus Christ, the Apostle Paul is probably the most well known historical figure in the New Testament. Paul was a Jewish-born Roman citizen, originally named Saul; his citizenship and his status as a well-educated and influential Pharisee afforded him many privileges within the Jewish community and the larger Roman world (Acts 22:3, 26:5; Galatians 1:14; Philippians 3:5–6). He was so zealous and passionate about his people, tradition, and religious activities and rituals that he vehemently opposed and persecuted the early Christians, even leading the charge in the martyrdom of Stephen (Acts 7:58, 8:1, 22:4a, 26:9–11; 1 Corinthians 15:9; Galatians 1:13; Philippians 3:6). Because he spent so much of his time and energy persecuting Christians, his conversion on the road to Damascus and his subsequent call to be an apostle of Christ were both surprising and radical (Acts 9:1–19, 22:6–11, 26:12–18; Galatians 1:15–16).

Paul never got over the rich grace of God in Christ given to such a sinner as he, which is why he spoke and wrote of God's grace more than any other New Testament writer (2:4–9; 1 Timothy 1:12–17; 1 Corinthians 15:8–10; etc.). The Holy Spirit worked through Paul to evangelize a countless number of people, to plant many churches and help lead, establish, and strengthen many more, and to write thirteen of the twenty-seven God-breathed books in the New Testament.

Paul underwent more suffering and persecution because of Christ in the last thirty years of his life than most people would be willing to go through in ten lifetimes (2 Corinthians 6:1–10, 11:23–33), and yet he counted it a joy to suffer for the glory of Jesus and the good of others (Romans 5:3, 5:11, 12:12; 2 Corinthians 7:4; Philippians 2:17–18; Colossians 1:24).

Paul's genuine love for the Church; his unrelenting pursuit of the its health, growth, and protection from doctrinal and moral error; and his willing service, sacrifice, and suffering on behalf of it make him someone to whom we all should pay attention.

INTENDED RECIPIENTS

The book of Ephesians is a letter (epistle) written to the Christians who lived in Ephesus. However, most scholars believe it was intended for more than just the Ephesian Christians. The three main reasons for this conclusion are:

1. The absence of personal remarks and names Paul usually included in his letters (cf. Romans 16).
2. The existence of ancient copies that exclude any reference to Ephesus in the opening greeting or that mention a different city altogether.
3. The comprehensive and fairly general (yet deep) scope of its content, indicating that it was not written in response to any issues or questions necessarily unique to the Ephesians.

The conclusion that many often come to is that this letter, much like the letters to the Colossians and the Laodiceans (Colossians 4:16), was a general epistle specifically designed to be circulatory; in other words, the intended recipients were most likely Christians throughout Asia Minor, including and perhaps starting with those in Ephesus. As a result, it is much easier to understand how its teachings may be applied in our modern-day context.

THE CITY OF EPHEBUS

Ephesus was a prominent port city on the coast of the Aegean Sea and served as the capital of the Roman province of Asia Minor (modern day Turkey). At the time of Paul's letter, it was one of the largest cities in the empire and was known for its emperor and idol worship; in fact, it was the home of one of the seven wonders of the ancient world—the Temple of the Roman goddess Artemis (in Greek, Diana) (Acts 19:23–41).

It was also a center of learning and commerce, thanks to its proximity to several key land routes in western Asia Minor. Some of the housing structures suggest the presence of a wealthy class, but as with most Roman provinces, the city was made up primarily of lower class individuals and slaves.

Paul first visited Ephesus in AD 51, during his second missionary journey (Acts 18:19–21). After he left Priscilla and Aquila to minister in Ephesus while he continued on his journey, he later returned and stayed with the Christians there for about three years (AD 52–55), strengthening the Ephesian church as well as others around Asia.

STRUCTURE, THEMES AND MESSAGE

Of all of the New Testament books, perhaps only the book of Romans is more theologically rich than the book of Ephesians. Within the pages of this little letter, we find the doctrines of sin; grace; reconciliation with God; spiritual warfare; the spiritual nature and mandated ways of Christ's Church; practical holiness; unity in Christ; forgiveness; God's eternal purposes for the world; predestination; love; the individual, corporate, and cosmological nature of salvation; the everlasting inheritance of the saints; and more. One commentator sums all of this up by saying,

Its opening doxology blessings cascade down upon the reader. In its closing verses the smell of the battlefield lies heavily in the air and through the smoke of war we see Christians, fully clad in the armour of spiritual warfare, still standing. From beginning to end Ephesians sets before us the wonder of God's grace, the privilege of belonging to the church, and the pattern of life-transformation the gospel produces.¹

Not unlike many of Paul's other letters, the first half of Ephesians is doctrinal/indicative (that is, it indicates what is true), specifically outlining the work of Jesus Christ on behalf of and for the creation of His new community of believers (i.e., the Church). The second half of the book is mainly practical/imperative, focusing more on the proper response upon hearing of the

¹ Sinclair B. Ferguson, *Let's Study Ephesians* (East Peoria, IL: Banner of Truth, 2015), xi.

riches of God's grace in Christ just expounded in the first three chapters. So, chapters 1–3 are foundational, being mainly about the immeasurable riches of God's grace in Christ to the Church, and chapters 4–6, being built upon the first three, are mainly about how this grace is to create changed lives and relationships in the Church and how it is then to be displayed to the world through the Church:

The whole letter is thus a magnificent combination of Christian doctrine and Christian duty, Christian faith and Christian life, what God has done through Christ and what we must be and do in consequence.²

Here is a simplified and unified list of the major themes of the book of Ephesians:

- The glorious riches of our Triune God's saving grace
 - The Perfect Plan of God the Father
 - The Purchased Blessings of God the Son
 - The Powerful Work of God the Spirit

- The newly created community in Christ by God's grace
 - Their Christ-Made Unity
 - Their Christ-Like Living and Relationships
 - Their Christ-Dependent Battle

Ultimately, the book of Ephesians is about God's grace: the unsearchable (3:8), immeasurable (2:7), glorious (1:18, 3:16) riches of God's grace in Christ. And, oh how important that last little phrase is: "in Christ"! It is only in Jesus Christ and His saving work that the riches of God's grace come to us. So even more specifically, this letter is about how the riches of God's grace in Christ create, fill, and empower a new community who will display the glory of God's grace in the world.

² John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Ephesians, Bible Speaks Today*, (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 1979), 25.

Most precisely and concisely, then, we can say that the main message of the book of Ephesians is about the untold riches of God's grace in Christ coming to the Church, working in the Church, and flowing through the Church, all for the sake of God's glory.

OUTLINE

- I. OPENING (1:1–2)
- II. THE RICHES OF GOD'S GRACE IN CHRIST TO THE CHURCH (1:3–3:21)
 - A. Praise to God for the spiritual blessings of God's grace in Christ (1:3–14)
 - B. Prayer of thanks and for a greater grasp of the riches of God's grace in Christ (1:15–23)
 - C. Exposition of God's salvation by God's grace alone in Christ alone (2:1–10)
 - D. The recollection of the reconciliation of both Jews and Gentiles to God (and each other) in Christ (2:11–22)
 - E. Exposition on the privileged ministry of declaring the mystery of the riches of God's grace in Christ to ALL people (3:1–13)
 - F. Prayer to God for a greater grasp of the love of God in Christ (3:14–21)
- III. THE RICHES OF GOD'S GRACE IN CHRIST IN AND THROUGH THE CHURCH (4:1–6:20)
 - A. Exhortations to display the unity within diversity of the new community in Christ (4:1–16)
 - B. Exhortations to live in righteousness and in right relationships within the Church (4:17–5:21)
 - C. Exhortations to live in right relationship within social structures (5:21–6:9)
 - D. Exhortations to stand strong against the spiritual forces of evil (6:10–20)
- IV. CLOSING (6:21–24)



WEEKLY RESOURCES

Resource Key:

-  - Sermon
-  - Written Word
-  - Family Video
-  - Stories of People
-  - Audio Podcast

NOTE: All Catechism Q & A's are from the [Heidelberg Catechism](#).

EPHESIANS 1:1-2

WEEK 1

1. What is an apostle, and what does it mean that Paul is one “by the will of God”?
2. What do you first think of when you hear the word saint? In what way can all Christians be called saints?
3. What does it look like practically to be faithful? Could you accurately be referred to as one who is “faithful in Christ Jesus”?
4. Is verse 2 a simple wish, a mere formality, or something more? Does it encourage you?
5. What is significant about Paul's opening greeting to the Ephesians? How might it better help you receive his letter?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:3–4 — Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

PRAYER GUIDE

NOTE: Use these prayers as guides and spring boards to help you in your praying.

Adoration: I praise You, Father, for Your glorious grace with which You have blessed me.

Confession: I confess that I often live my life oblivious to the existence of the almighty, all-wise, and sovereign God.

Thanksgiving: Thank You, God, for Your grace in loving me and for the peace I have with You as a result.

Supplication: O God, please make known to me the greatness of Your glory.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. But who is that Mediator who at the same time is true God and a true and righteous man?

A. Our Lord Jesus Christ,^[1] whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness, our sanctification, and our redemption (1 Corinthians 1:30)

[1] Matt. 1:21–23; Luke 2:11; 1 Tim. 2:5, 3:16.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🎥 - “Ephesians” — The Bible Project | <https://goo.gl/AW7i4I>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 1:3-6

WEEK 2

1. What in this passage comforts, challenges, or confuses you? Write it down and pray about it.
2. What does it mean to bless the God who has blessed us? What is one way you can plan and commit to doing this today?
3. What is significant about the phrases "in Christ" in verse 3 and "in the Beloved" in verse 6?
4. Many people either stumble over or rejoice in the statement of God's eternal election in verse 4, but the holiness for which we were chosen is often rarely considered. Take some time to dwell on this truth.
5. Two of the ways God has blessed His people are that He has chosen them for holiness and predestined them for adoption. What is the end purpose of these blessings?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:5–6 — In love he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise you, Triune God, who planned for my redemption before the world was formed.

Confession: I confess that sometimes I live as though I'm ignorant that You have blessed me with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Thanksgiving: Thank you, God, for adopting me as your son/daughter, for entering into a covenant with me to bless me with every spiritual blessing, and for being a faithful God of steadfast love and mercy.

Supplication: Lord, please make known to me the riches of Your grace so that I can live my life free of condemnation, secure in the knowledge that I am a beloved, adopted child of Yours.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. From where do you know this?

A. From the holy gospel, which God Himself first revealed in Paradise.

[1] Later, He had it proclaimed by the patriarchs^[2] and prophets,^[3] and foreshadowed by the sacrifices and other ceremonies of the law.^[4] Finally, He had it fulfilled through His only Son.^[5]

[1] Gen. 3:15. [2] Gen. 12:3, 22:18, 49:10. [3] Is. 53; Jer. 23:5–6; Mic. 7:18–20; Acts 10:43; Heb. 1:1. [4] Lev. 1:7; John 5:46; Heb. 10:1–10. [5] Rom. 10:4; Gal. 4:4–5; Col. 2:17.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

“God Delights In You” (Sovereign Grace Music)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🎤 - “God Predestined Us unto Sonship Through Jesus Christ” — Dr. John Piper | <https://goo.gl/mleRjF>.

📖 - “Ephesians 1:3–6” — Sam Storms | <https://goo.gl/Tgg1sP>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 1:7-10

WEEK 3

1. While redemption and forgiveness happen to individuals, this whole first section (1:1–14) refers to “we” and “us” and to “our” blessings in Christ. What is the significance of this corporate focus?
2. Paul's letter to the Ephesian Christians focuses on the riches of God's grace. Read through the whole book of Ephesians in one sitting underlining every reference or allusion to God's grace.
3. The Good News of Jesus Christ is never less than personal salvation, but it is indeed much more than that. How do verses 8–10 point to God's grand plan in Christ?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:7–8 — In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise the awesome wisdom of God that is infinitely wiser than the wisdom of men.

Confession: Lord, search my heart and reveal my sin to me. Teach me to hate it. I confess these sins to You now and ask for Your forgiveness.

Thanksgiving: Thank you, Lord, for Your amazing love that You have lavished on me in Jesus Christ. I thank You for Your eternal purpose to call me to Yourself. I thank You, Lord Jesus, for the infinite price You paid to save me from the wrath of God. I thank You for the wondrous inheritance for which I have been predestined—not because I deserve it, but because of Your gracious and merciful love.

Supplication: O Lord, give me an enduring and persevering faith, that I may fulfill Your call upon my life.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. Are all men, then, saved by Christ just as they perished through Adam?

A. No. Only those are saved who by a true faith are grafted into Christ and accept all His benefits.^[1]

[1] Matt. 7:14; John 1:12; 3:16, 3:18, 3:36; Rom. 11:16–21.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

"Son of God" (Starfield)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🎤 - "God Predestined Us unto Sonship Through Jesus Christ" — Dr. John Piper | <https://goo.gl/mleRjF>.

🔖 - "Calvin's Commentary on Ephesians 1 | <https://goo.gl/htDsS5>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 1:11-14

WEEK 4

1. Verse 11 says that “we have obtained an inheritance,” but then verse 14 says that the Holy Spirit is “the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it.” How should we reconcile these two statements?
2. What does it mean that God “works all things according to the counsel of His will?” Does this comfort you? Why or why not?
3. What is the progression of salvation found in verses 13 and 14?
4. What is the relationship between the phrase “to the praise of his glorious grace” in verse 6 and the phrase “to the praise of his glory” in verses 12 and 14?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:9–10 — making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise you, God, for the wisdom of Your eternal purpose and for the wonderful gospel of Your salvation.

Confession: I confess there are times when I doubt that You are working everything in my life according to the counsel of Your will.

Thanksgiving: Thank you, Holy Spirit, for being the guarantee of my inheritance until I acquire it.

Supplication: Strengthen my faith in Your commitment to my salvation and reveal to me the idols in my life in which I misplace my trust.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. What is true faith?

A. True faith is a sure knowledge whereby I accept as true all that God has revealed to us in His Word.^[1] At the same time it is a firm confidence^[2] that not only to others but also to me^[3] God has granted forgiveness of sins, everlasting righteousness, and salvation^[4] out of mere grace, only for the sake of Christ's merits.^[5] This faith the Holy Spirit works in my heart by the gospel.^[6]

[1] John 17:3, 17:17; Heb. 11:1–3; James 2:19. [2] Rom. 4:18–21, 5:1, 10:10; Heb. 4:16. [3] Gal. 2:20. [4] Rom. 1:17; Heb. 10:10. [5] Rom. 3:20–26; Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8–10. [6] Acts 16:14; Rom. 1:16, 10:17; 1 Cor. 1:21.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

"How Rich a Treasure" (Matt Boswell)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

📖 - "Glory to Our Sovereign God (Ephesians 1:11–12)" — Steven J. Cole | <https://goo.gl/vH28iD>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 1:15-18

WEEK 5

1. Who are a few people for which you can give thanks? Stop and do so now, and then let them know the things about them for which you thanked God?
2. In what ways do these verses instruct and motivate you to pray?
3. Take some time to pray Paul's prayer in these verses for other people in your life.
4. In order to move from possessing a glorious inheritance to knowing it in a way that changes and satisfies us, we must pray. We must ask the Father of glory to help us see the glories of what He has blessed us with. Pray for this fervently and with faith.

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:11–12 — In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I give praise to the God and Father of my Lord Jesus Christ, for His great wisdom, power, love, mercy, and grace.

Confession: I confess that I so often fail to lift up my church family in prayer, asking You to reveal Yourself to them.

Thanksgiving: Thank You, Lord, for my brothers and sisters in Christ, who constantly point me to You and encourage me to walk in Your ways.

Supplication: I pray that You will give me the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of You. Open the eyes of my heart that I might know what is the hope to which You have called me and what are the riches of Your glorious inheritance in the saints.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. What, then, must a Christian believe?

A. All that is promised us in the Gospel,^[1] which the articles of our universal and undoubted Christian faith teach us in a summary.

[1] Matt. 28:19; John 20:30–31.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

"Jesus Is Better" (Austin Stone Music)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

📖 - "The Goodness of the Gospel Filling Our Hearts Afresh" –
Scotty Smith | <https://goo.gl/18jlj5>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 1:19-23

WEEK 6

1. What are some ways that God's power is described in this passage? What do you think Paul intended for his readers to feel with these descriptions?
2. What does it mean for our earthly authorities that Jesus died, rose again, and reigns on high?
3. What does it say about the Church's present and future privilege and hope that all things are under the feet of Christ and that the Church is His body?
4. What do you think the phrase "the fullness of him who fills all in all" means? What does it not mean?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:13–14 — In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise You, Jesus Christ, that Your name is above every name and that You are seated in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and dominion and power.

Confession: Forgive me, Father, when I fail to submit to Jesus Christ, who is the Head over the Church.

Thanksgiving: Thank You, Lord Jesus, that You are seated in heavenly places, mediating the new covenant and interceding on behalf of the saints.

Supplication: Lord Jesus, teach me to submit my whole life to You. Teach me to consider Your love for me in every thought, decision, word, and action.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. What are these articles?

A. I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. On the third day He arose from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit. I believe in a holy universal Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

"Man of Sorrows" (Hillsong)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🔖 - "The Hope to Which We are Called" – Ligonier Ministries | <https://goo.gl/2404iU>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 2:1-3

WEEK 7

1. What does it mean to be dead in our sins?
2. Does this passage paint an unrealistically dark picture of non-Christians? Why or why not?
3. Who is “the prince of the power of the air”? How does his rule as prince correspond with the truth stated in Ephesians 1:19–23?
4. This passage is speaking of what Christians used to be. Does this still describe you? If not, after dwelling on how this used to be you, thank God and praise Him for delivering you. If so, plead now for God to open your heart to Him, granting you repentance and faith in Jesus. Then ask a trusted Christian friend to help you?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:15–17 – For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him,

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise You, Father, for Your right judgments and the wrath that You have toward sin and sinners.

Confession: I confess that sometimes I still behave as if I am enslaved to sin.

Thanksgiving: Thank You, Father, for opening my eyes to the deadness of my spirit, for convicting me of my sin, and for rescuing me from the kingdom of darkness.

Supplication: Into three parts: the first is about God the Father and our creation; the second about God the Son and our redemption; the third about God the Holy Spirit and our sanctification.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. How are these articles divided?

A. Into three parts: the first is about God the Father and our creation; the second about God the Son and our redemption; the third about God the Holy Spirit and our sanctification.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

"All I Have Is Christ" (Sovereign Grace Music)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🎥 - "Alive in Christ" – Matt Blackwell | <https://goo.gl/Vj18lt>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 2:4-7

WEEK 8

1. According to verses 4 and 5, what moved God to love people who were dead in their sins? By way of contrast, what didn't move Him to save us?
2. Notice the three times with is used in verses 5 and 6. The blessings that Christ earned are shared only with those who are with Him. Who are those who are with Christ? What does this tell us about God's saving work?
3. Using Scripture to help you interpret Scripture, what does it mean that we are "seated . . . with him in the heavenly places"? (See Ephesians 1:3, 1:20, 3:10, 6:12).
4. What is the purpose for which God saved us by grace? Connect this to Ephesians 1:6, 1:12, and 1:14.

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:18–19 – having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise You for Your great mercy and grace and for the great love with which you loved us.

Confession: I confess that I don't always tell the good news of what Jesus Christ has done for me. I confess that too often my mouth remains silent rather than proclaim your glory.

Thanksgiving: Thank You for those two great words: "But God." Thank You for making me alive in Christ Jesus, even when I was dead in my sin.

Supplication: O Lord, continue to awaken my heart to the wonders of Your grace so that I cannot keep silent about them.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. Since there is only one God,^[1] why do you speak of three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

A. Because God has so revealed Himself in His Word^[2] that these three distinct persons are the one, true, eternal God.

[1] Deut. 6:4; Is. 44:6, 45:5; 1 Cor. 8:4, 8:6. [2] Gen. 1:2–3; Is. 61:1, 63:8–10; Matt. 3:16–17, 28:18–19; Luke 4:18; John 14:26, 15:26; 2 Cor. 13:14; Gal. 4:6; Tit. 3:5–6

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

"Everything Is Different" (Shane and Shane)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🎥 - "The God Who is There: Part 12. The God Who Gathers and Transforms His People" – D. A. Carson | <https://goo.gl/gtO5fk>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 2:8-10

WEEK 9

1. What do you think is the "gift of God" that Paul mentions in verse 8?
2. Why can no one boast? Why was this God's intended purpose?
3. Are you truly content being called God's "workmanship"? Why or why not?
4. What is the right way to connect "not a result of works" in verse 9 and "created . . . for good works" in verse 10?
5. What does it mean that God prepared good works "beforehand".

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:20–21 – that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: Lord God, I boast in You. I boast in Your great love. I boast in Your amazing grace.

Confession: Lord, I confess that I still sometimes imagine that I deserved Your grace. Forgive me for when I boast in my own goodness.

Thanksgiving: Thank You, Lord, for setting Your love on me before the foundation of the world. Thank you for creating me in Christ Jesus for good works.

Supplication: Holy Spirit, please continue to transform my heart so that I live in a manner worthy of my high calling in Christ Jesus.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. What do you believe when you say: I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

A. That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and all that is in them,^[1] and who still upholds and governs them by His eternal counsel and providence,^[2] is, for the sake of Christ His Son, my God and my Father.^[3] In Him I trust so completely as to have no doubt that He will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul,^[4] and will also turn to my good whatever adversity He sends me in this life of sorrow.^[5]

He is able to do so as almighty God,^[6] and willing also as a faithful Father.^[7]

[1] Gen. 1–2; Ex. 20:11; Job 38–39; Ps. 33:6; Is. 44:24; Acts 4:24, 14:15. [2] Ps. 104:27–30; Matt. 6:30, 10:29; Eph. 1:11. [3] John 1:12–13; Rom. 8:15–16; Gal. 4:4–7; Eph. 1:5. [4] Ps. 55:22; Matt. 6:25–26; Luke 12:22–31. [5] Rom.

8:28. [6] Gen. 18:14; Rom. 8:31–39. [7] Matt. 6:32–33, 7:9–11

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

“Saved by Grace” (Shane and Shane)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🎥 - "The Gift of Cerebral Palsy" — The Austin Stone Story Team | <https://goo.gl/E5kiu5>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 2:11-13

WEEK 10

1. What does Paul want the Ephesian Christians to remember, and why?
2. What are "the covenants of promise" that Paul speaks of in verse 12? To whom do they belong?
3. How might "the blood of Christ" in verse 13 relate to the bloody rite of circumcision mentioned in verse 11.

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:22–23 — And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise You, God, for Your redemptive plan—how by grace You established a covenant with Abraham and through Him raised up a people for Yourself, and that You have chosen to graft me into that vine, so that I, too, may be a part of the people of God.

Confession: I confess, Lord, that I often forget the great and sure hope that I have in Christ: that I will share in the inheritance of Christ and in Your glory. Forgive me for the times that I live as if I have no hope in the world.

Thanksgiving: Thank You for the knowledge that I love You only because You first loved me, and that You set Your love on me even though I hated You. Thank You for pursuing me and saving me.

Supplication: Lord, there are so many people that I see everyday that have no hope in the world. Use me—open my lips to proclaim the great hope that I have in You.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. What do you understand by the providence of God?

A. God's providence is His almighty and ever present power,^[1] whereby, as with His hand, He still upholds heaven and earth and all creatures,^[2] and so governs them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty,^[3] indeed, all things, come not by chance^[4] but by His fatherly hand.^[5]

[1] Jer. 23:23–24; Acts 17:24–28. [2] Heb. 1:3. [3] Jer. 5:24; Acts 14:15–17; John 9:3; Prov. 22:2. [4] Prov. 16:33.
[5] Matt. 10:29

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

“Awake My Soul” (Derek Webb/Sandra McCracken)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🔖 - “Remembering Then, but Now! (Ephesians 2:11-13)” – Steven J. Cole | <https://goo.gl/iaDQzX>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 2:13-15

WEEK 11

1. What does it mean to be “far off” and “brought near”? How does the blood of Christ make such a change?
2. What was “the dividing wall of hostility”?
3. Sometimes it is difficult for American Christians in the twenty-first century to feel the tension and the weight of the problem facing Middle Eastern Jewish and Gentile Christians in the first century. What are some things that you can do to gain a better and fuller grasp of this issue?
4. What was Jesus seeking to create, and why?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 2:1–3 — And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise You, O God, that You have reconciled Your people to Yourself through Jesus Christ, and for the great and lasting peace that You have offered as a free gift to those whom You call.

Confession: I confess that I often forget the peace that I have in Christ Jesus and instead choose to live in turmoil because of my sin.

Thanksgiving: Thank You, Lord Jesus, that You Yourself are the gift of peace that we have. Thank You for breaking down in Your flesh the dividing wall between Jews and Gentiles by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances. Thank You for creating in Yourself one new man instead of two, thus creating peace.

Supplication: Lord, please teach me what it means to be part of a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for Your own possession, and empower me to proclaim the excellencies of You who called me out of darkness and into Your marvelous light.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. What does it benefit us to know that God has created all things and still upholds them by His providence?

A We can be patient in adversity,^[1] thankful in prosperity,^[2] and with a view to the future we can have a firm confidence in our faithful God

and Father that no creature shall separate us from His love;^[3] for all creatures are so completely in His hand that without His will they cannot so much as move.^[4]

[1] Job. 1:21–22; Ps. 39:10; James 1:3. [2] Deut. 8:10; 1 Thess. 5:18. [3] Ps. 55:22; Rom. 5:3–5; 8:38–39. [4] Job 1:12, 2:6; Prov. 21:1; Acts 17:24–28.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

“Boldly I Approach” (Rend Collective Experiment)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

📖 - “Overview of the Bible: A Survey of the History of Salvation” – Dr. Vern S. Poythress | <http://bit.ly/2IAk6S4>

📖 - “Lesson 17: Reconciled Relationships (Ephesians 2:14-18)” – Steven J. Cole | <http://bit.ly/2bAOKUz>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 2:16-18

WEEK 12

1. Is the hostility referenced in verse 16 different from the hostility referenced in verse 14? How do you know?
2. What does it mean that Jesus “preached peace”? How does this connect to us (consider 2 Corinthians 5:16–21)?
3. Do you see a reference to the Trinity in verse 18? What are the different functions that each part of the Trinity plays in this reconciling work?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 2:4–5 — But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and is, and is to come!!

Confession: Forgive me, Lord, when I forget that I have access to You and I live as if I have to face my struggles alone.

Thanksgiving: Thank you, Jesus, for killing the hostility between God and man and for reconciling us to the Father.

Supplication: Lord, may my faith ever be in You, and You alone. Empower me to cast out the idols in my life and worship only You.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. Why is the Son of God called Jesus, that is, Saviour?

A. Because He saves us from all our sins,^[1] and because salvation is not to be sought or found in anyone else.^[2]

[1] Matt. 1:21; Heb. 7:25. [2] Is. 43:11; John 15:4–5; Acts 4:11–12; 1 Tim. 2:5.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

"Nothing But the Blood" (Charlie Hall)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🔖 - "What Is the Doctrine of the Trinity?" – Dr. John Piper | <http://bit.ly/1qaydN4>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 2:19-22

WEEK 13

1. Is Paul putting the apostles on the same level as the prophets? Do you consider the prophets to be on the same level as the apostles?
2. What is the foundation of all true Christian community?
3. How should individual Christians think about their identity in relation to the rest of the household of God?
4. How do you think a Jewish person would hear these statements about God's house, temple, and dwelling place? How should Gentiles receive these statements?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 2:6–7 — and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise You, Lord, that You are building Your temple, the Church, with Jesus Christ as the cornerstone.

Confession: Lord, I confess that I often do not cherish the Scriptures and do not commit myself to the reading of Your Word.

Thanksgiving: I thank you, Lord, that we are members of the household of God and that Your Church is built on the strong foundation of Jesus Christ and Your everlasting Word.

Supplication: Father, place within me a desire for Your Word and for communion and fellowship with my fellow saints.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. Do people really believe in Jesus as the only Savior if they also seek salvation and well-being from saints, in themselves, or anywhere else?

A. No. Though they boast of Him in words, they in fact deny the only Saviour Jesus.^[1] For one of two things must be true: either Jesus is not a complete Saviour, or those who by true faith accept this Saviour must find in Him all that is necessary for their salvation.^[2]

[1] 1 Cor. 1:12–13; Gal. 5:4. [2] Col. 1:19–20, 2:10; 1 John 1:7.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

“Completely Done” (Sovereign Grace Music)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🔖 - “The Church” – J. I. Packer | <https://goo.gl/nPF65I>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 3:1-6

WEEK 14

1. Why might it be helpful for us to remember that Paul was in prison when he wrote this letter?
2. Read the following passages: Ephesians 1:9, 3:3–4, 3:6, 3:9; 6:19; Romans 11:25, 16:25; Colossians 1:26–27, 2:2, 4:3. Write a short explanation discussing Paul's use of the phrase "mystery of Christ."
3. In order to understand the significance of being made "fellow heirs" and "partakers of the promise in Christ," we must first know the blessed promises given to God's people mentioned in Genesis through Malachi of the Old Testament. Make a plan to read through the Old Testament, or at least an overview of it, starting today. There are many reading plans available online, but we have also made several available for download; the link to those is included in this week's resource section below.
4. What does it mean to be made a partaker of God's promise in Christ "through the gospel"? How does this (or should this) affect the way we think about and obey the command to share the good news of Jesus?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 2:8–9 — For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise You, God, for Your wise plan—that You made the Jews and Gentiles fellow heirs of the promise and co-beneficiaries of the covenant You made to Abraham.

Confession: Lord, reveal to me the hidden sin in my heart. Forgive me for the times I offend You without even knowing it. By Your Holy Spirit, sensitize my conscience to help me avoid temptation and sin.

Thanksgiving: I thank You for calling and saving Paul so that He could be Your ambassador to the Gentiles. I thank You for inspiring His writing and preserving it for our benefit.

Supplication: Lord, teach me more and more what it means to be a partaker of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel and let that be a guiding light in my life.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. Why is He called Christ, that is, Anointed?

A. Because He has been ordained by God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Spirit,^[1] to be our chief Prophet and Teacher,^[2] who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption;^[3] our only High Priest,^[4] who by the one sacrifice of His body has redeemed us,^[5] and who continually intercedes for us before the Father;^[6] and our eternal King,^[7] who governs us by His Word and Spirit, and who defends and preserves us in the redemption obtained for us.^[8]

[1] Ps. 45:7; Heb. 1:9; Is. 61:1; Luke 4:18, 3:21–22. [2] Deut. 18:15; Acts 3:22. [3] John 1:18, 15:15. [4] Ps. 110:4; Heb. 7:17. [5] Heb. 9:12, 10:11–14. [6] Rom. 8:34; Heb. 9:24; 1 John 2:1. [7] Zach. 9:9; Matt. 21:5; Luke 1:33. [8]

Matt. 28:18–20; John 10:28; Rev. 12:10–11

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

“We Are Free” (Nathan Smith)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🔖 - “The Mystery of the Gospel” – Dr. Albert Mohler | <http://bit.ly/2cC9OgQ>

🔖 - Old Testament Reading Plans – Various | <http://bit.ly/2mmdwP3> | <http://bit.ly/2kVj3Ps> | <http://bit.ly/2lj4Bg2>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 3:7-10

WEEK 15

1. What does it mean to be a minister/servant of the gospel?
2. Why do you think Paul refers to himself as “the very least of all the saints,” and what would be the benefit of this way of thinking? What hinders you from sincerely thinking of yourself this way? How do we keep this sort of thinking from devolving into self-focused pity, depression, or doubt?
3. Why do you think Paul refers to the gospel as “the unsearchable riches of Christ”? Write down five other descriptive ways to refer to the glorious Good News of Jesus Christ.
4. The manifold wisdom of God is made known through the Church. What does this say about the privileged nature of the Church?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 2:10 – For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I worship you, O God, for your manifold wisdom that is made known through the Church to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

Confession: I confess that I often don't exhibit the same humility that is evident in Paul. Holy Spirit, reveal pride in my attitudes, my thoughts, my words, and my actions and then empower me to put it to death.

Thanksgiving: I thank you, Lord, for the gift of Your grace; it is this grace in which I stand. Thank you for the grace that sustains me every moment of every day.

Supplication: I need your wisdom, Lord, in every situation of my life. Teach me to depend on You for wisdom, not on myself.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. Why are you called a Christian?

A. Because I am a member of Christ by faith^[1] and thus share in His anointing,^[2] so that I may, as prophet, confess His Name,^[3] as priest, present myself a living sacrifice of thankfulness to Him,^[4] and as king, fight with a free and good conscience against sin and the devil in this life,^[5] and hereafter reign with Him eternally over all creatures.

^[6]

[1] 1 Cor. 12:12–27. [2] Joel 2:28; Acts 2:17; 1 John 2:27. [3] Matt. 10:32; Rom 10:9–10; Heb. 13:15. [4] Rom. 12:1; 1 Pet. 2:5, 2:9. [5] Gal. 5:16–17; Eph. 6:11; 1 Tim. 1:18–19. [6] Matt. 25:34; 2 Tim. 2:12.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

“The Church’s One Foundation” (Samuel Stone)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🔖 - “What is the Gospel?” — D. A. Carson | <http://bit.ly/2le8p2g>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 3:11-13

WEEK 16

1. How does 3:11 relate to 1:9–10?
2. Verse 12 mentions “boldness and access with confidence.” Boldness for what? Access to what? What is the cause of such confidence?
3. What is the suffering Paul refers to in verse 13, and why should they not lose heart over it? Does this encourage you? Why or why not?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 3:14–16 — For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise You, Lord, for Your eternal purpose of reconciliation through the shedding of the blood of Your precious Son.

Confession: I confess that sometimes I lose heart over things that I suffer or things that other people suffer.

Thanksgiving: I thank You, Father, for the Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we have boldness to enter and access into Your presence through faith in Him.

Supplication: Lord, help me to trust that You are always working behind the scenes to bring about Your eternal purposes for me, for the Church, and for Your Kingdom.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. Why is He called God's only begotten Son, since we also are children of God?

A. Because Christ alone is the eternal, natural Son of God.[1] We, however, are children of God by adoption, through grace, for Christ's sake.[2]

[1] John 1:1–3, 1:14, 1:18, 3:16; Rom. 8:32; Heb. 1; 1 John 4:9. [2] John 1:12; Rom. 8:14–17; Gal. 4:6; Eph. 1:5–6.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

“Before the Throne” (Charitie Lees Bancroft and Vikki Cook)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

📖 - “Suffering and the Sovereignty of God – Eds. Dr. John Piper and Justin Taylor | <https://goo.gl/05Qv3E>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 3:14-19

WEEK 17

1. What does the phrase “for this reason” point back to?
2. What kind of strength does Paul refer to in verse 16?
3. What does it mean for Christ to dwell in your heart through faith?
4. Do you long to understand what Paul prays for and to have what he asks of the Father? Whether you answer yes or no, pray and ask Him to work in your heart concerning these things. Then pray the same for at least one other person (or even your whole church).

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 3:17–19 – so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise you as the God from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. I praise You for the riches of Your glory.

Confession: I confess that my knowledge of Your love for me is limited by my humanity and my sin. Forgive me for the times that I don't trust in Your love for me.

Thanksgiving: I thank You for the Holy Spirit who strengthens me in my inmost being so that I can live in obedience to You.

Supplication: Please help me to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth of Your love—knowing the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge—so that I may be filled with all the fullness of God.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. Why do you call Him our Lord?

A. Because He has ransomed us, body and soul,^[1] from all our sins, not with silver or gold but with His precious blood,^[2] and has freed us from all the power of the devil to make us His own possession.^[3]

[1] 1 Cor. 6:20; 1 Tim. 2:5–6. [2] 1 Peter 1:18–19. [3] Col. 1:13–14; Heb. 2:14–15.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

"The Love of God" (Frederick M. Lehman)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🔖 - "C. H. Spurgeon's Prayers" | <https://goo.gl/ouASWY>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

EPHESIANS 3:20-21

WEEK 18

1. Just after laying out his prayer in the previous set of verses, Paul says that God is “able to do far more abundantly than all we ask.” How does this encourage and motivate you to pray with greater fervency, in greater faith, and for greater things?
2. What is the significance of God's power not only working for us but also working within us?
3. According to these verses, God is everlastingly glorified in the Church as He does more than we ask or think. How does the fact that God is glorified when we pray motivate you to pray? How does the fact that God is glorified in the Church and the fact that there is a corporate blessing for the Church when we pray motivate you to pray?
4. Now that we have now made it through the first major section (the foundational section) of Paul's letter to the Ephesian Christians, reread chapters 1–3 and write a summary sentence for each chapter.
5. What has blessed you most over these past months of studying through the book of Ephesians?

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 3:20–21 — Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER GUIDE

Adoration: I praise You because You are able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think.

Confession: I confess that I often doubt that You can do something or that You want to help me. Forgive me for doubting Your almighty power and Your steadfast love for me.

Thanksgiving: Thank You for the Holy Spirit, the same Spirit that raised Christ Jesus from the dead, that is at work within us.

Supplication: Father, please give me faith to bring everything to You in prayer. Give me faith to believe that You will do whatever I ask, or that You will do something even better than what I ask.

CATECHISM & FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Q. What do you confess when you say: He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary?

A. The eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God,^[1] took upon Himself true human nature from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary,^[2] through the working of the Holy Spirit.^[3] Thus He is also the true seed of David,^[4] and like His brothers in every respect,^[5] yet without sin.^[6]

[1] John 1:1, 10:30–36; Rom. 1:3, 9:5; Col. 1:15–17; 1 John 5:20. [2] Matt. 1:18–23; John 1:14; Gal. 4:4; Heb. 2:14. [3] Luke 1:35. [4] 2 Sam. 7:12–16; Ps. 132:11; Matt. 1:1; Luke 1:32; Rom. 1:3. [5] Phil. 2:7; Heb. 2:17. [6] Heb. 4:15, 7:26–27.

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONG

“Lord Most High” (Hillsong)

OTHER CONTENT & RESOURCES

🎙️ - “The Greatness and Power of God” — Dr. Lloyd-Jones | <https://goo.gl/00RjML>

SERMON NOTES

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