

INTRODUCTION

OUR GOAL

To give you the tools to study the Bible on your own with confidence, providing a better understanding of God and your relationship with Him.

THE PLAN

Each month, we will introduce another book of the Bible and give you some guidance to help you study on your own.

WHAT YOU NEED:

- A Bible you are comfortable marking in.
- Some markers or colored pencils.
- Worksheets we will provide.
- Time (about 30 minutes each day).
- Prayer (we always need God's help as we study the Bible).

BIBLE STUDY METHOD

- Observation | What does it say? (Interrogate the text: who, what, when, where, and how.)
- Interpretation | What did it mean to the intended audience?
- Application | What did I learn that should affect my life? (Is there a behavior, attitude, or understanding that should change in my life?)

GOALS (Each is valuable independently, but all three combined will provide the greatest result.)

- Read (hopefully more than once).
- Mark (strategically looking for details that matter).
- Record (lists and labels-themes, places, teaching, prophecies, etc.).

EPHESIANS Who We Are & How We Live

As we have seen already in 1 and 2 Corinthians, there are those who try to discredit Paul. They challenge his calling and credentials and try to pollute the Gospel. In Galatians, Paul is sharing details of his special calling and clarifying the simplicity of the Gospel. He is challenging those who have been confused and taken in by false teaching to consider the ramifications of accepting this "other gospel."

THE BASICS

What kind of literature is Ephesians?

Who wrote it?

Where was it written?

Who is it written to?

Approximately when was it written?

Why was it written?

GOD'S PLAN FOR BELIEVERS

Chapter 1 says that we have freedom and forgiveness through what? (1:7)

What does Paul say is a deposit that guarantees our inheritance from God?

God has now revealed to us his ______ regarding Christ, a plan to fulfill his own good pleasure. (1:9)

When you ______ in _____, he identified you as his own by giving you the ______, whom he promised long ago. (1:13)

The Spirit is God's _____ that he will give us the _____ he promised and that he has _____ us to be his own people. (1:14)

Why did he do this? (1:14)

God's purpose in all this was to use the _____ to display his _____ in its rich variety to all the unseen _____ and _____ in the heavenly places. (3:10)

In the verse above, locate what Paul is referring to when he said "in all this."

Because of	Christ and our	in him, we can now
come	and	into God's presenc <mark>e.</mark>
(3:12)		

THE CHURCH IS ONE BIG FAMILY

Why is it a big deal that Paul, who was a Pharisee before he met Christ, is writing a letter to people who weren't Jewish?

What message does Paul say he was given to preach to the Gentiles in chapter 3?

For Christ himself has brought ______ to us. He united _____ and ______ into one ______ when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the ______ of _____ that separated us. (2:14)

He made peace between _____ and _____ by creating in himself _____ new people from the two groups. (2:15)

So now you Gentiles are no longer ______ and _____. You are _____ along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's ______. (2:19)

Make every effort to keep yourselves ______ in the Spirit, binding yourselves ______ with peace. (4:3)

Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Ephesians 4:2

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BECOMING A NEW PERSON

Ephesians 2 begins by telling us that once we were what?

In chapter 3, Paul tells us that we will be made complete by experiencing what?

For he ______ us from the dead along with Christ and ______ us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. (2:6)

God saved you by his grace when you ______. And you can't take ______ for this; it is a ______ from God. Salvation is not a ______ for the good things we have done, so none of us can ______ about it. (2:8-9)

Since you have heard about Jesus and have ______ the truth that comes from him, ______ your old sinful nature and your former way of life... (4:21-22)

_____ your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy. (4:24)

Once you were full of ______, but now you have ______ from the Lord. So live as people of ______! For this light within you ______ only what is ______ and _____. (5:8-9)

> Put on your new nature, created to be like God truly righteous and holy. Ephesians 4:24

GODLY MARRIAGE & PARENTING

In chapter 5, verse 21, we're told to submit to one another for what reason?

On the cross, Jesus showed us what sacrificial love looks like. When Paul compares that to the way a husband should love his wife, what does that mean to the husbands in the room?

For wives, this means ______ to your husbands as to the Lord. (4:24)

For husbands, this means ______ your wives, just as Christ loved the church. (4:25)

As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." This is a ________, but it is an _______ of the way Christ and the church are one. (4:31)

Children, _____ your parents because you _____ to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do. _____ your father and mother. (6:1-2)

Fathers, do not ______ your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, ______ them up with the discipline and ______ that comes from the Lord. (6:4)

> As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." Ephesians 5:31

THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

Instead of fighting flesh and blood, what does Paul tell us that we actually fight against?

Ephesians 6:13 says that if we put on God's armor, then after the battle we will still be what?

Stand your ground, putting on the belt of ______ and the body armor of God's ______. For shoes, put on the ______ that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of ______ to stop the fiery arrows of the _____. Put on ______ as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the ______ of _____. (6:14-17)

Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay _____ and be ______ in your prayers for all believers everywhere. (6:18)

> Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Ephesians 6:10

ABOUT YOU & ME

10 Things Ephesians Tells Us About Who We Are In Christ

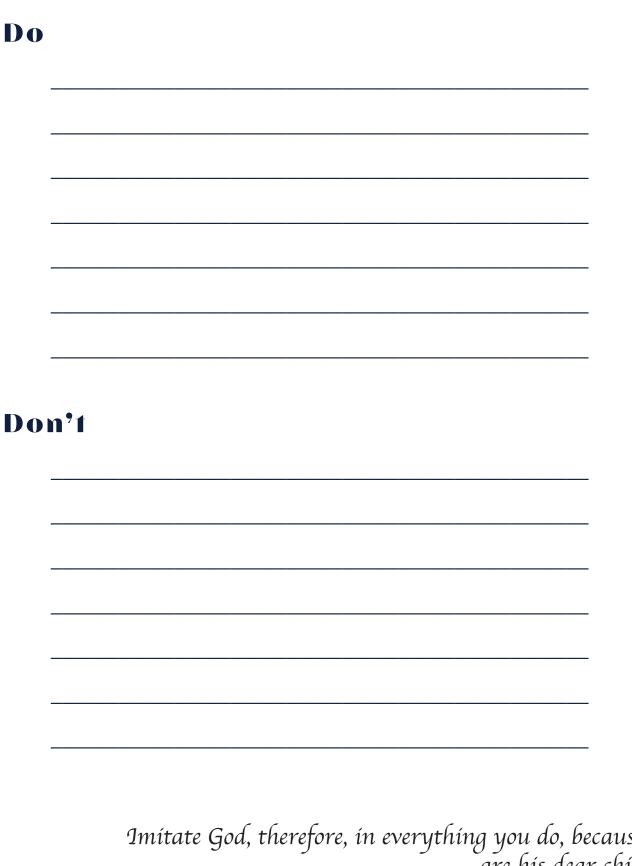
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United with Christ (1:3; 2:13)

Free and forgiven (1:7)

Showered with kindness, wisdom, and understanding (1:8)

May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Ephesians 3:19



MAKING IT PERSONAL

Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Ephesians 5:1

CHAPTER THEMES

Chapter 1	
Chapter 2	
Chapter 3	
Chapter 4	
Chapter 5	
Chapter 6	