

### **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

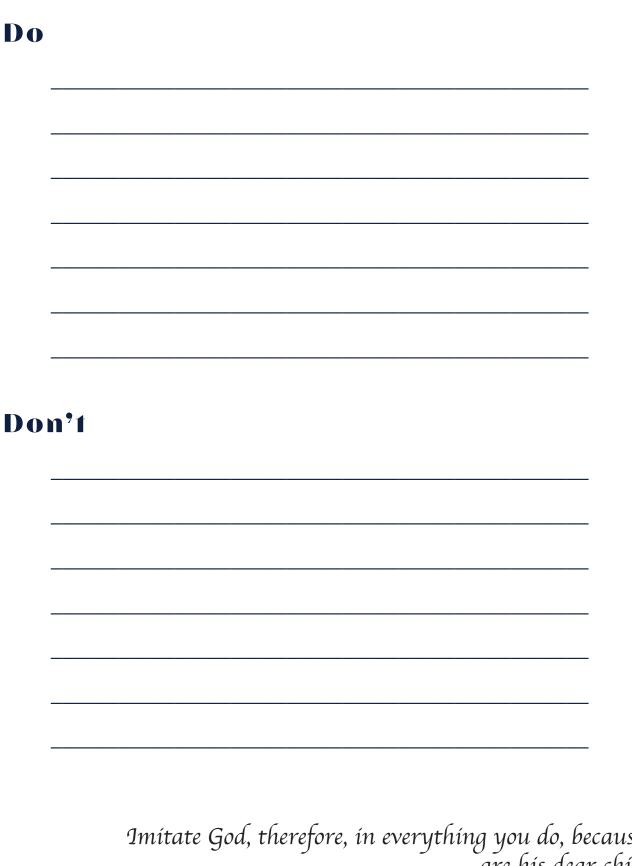
### l am.....

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	