

# EPHESIANS EPHESIANS EPHESIANS

Grace and Peace To You

## BIG IDEA

The book of Ephesians is a letter written by the apostle Paul to the people of Ephesus. His letter to them is beautiful, encouraging and uplifting. In the first chapter of the book we find Paul reminding them of their position and identity in Christ and reassuring them of their inheritance in Christ. This was vital for them to know so that their church community would be united, growing and healthy.

His message to them still speaks to us today - *for the church to grow and shine and achieve it's mission, the church must know who they are.*

### ***Ephesians 1:2***

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

### ***Ephesians 1:3***

<sup>3</sup> All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ.

### ***Ephesians 1:4-7***

<sup>4</sup> Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. <sup>5</sup> God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. <sup>6</sup> So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. <sup>7</sup> He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is **one** thing from last weekend's sermon that spoke to you?

2. In life we so easily forget our identity in Christ. What are some things or people in your life that are currently causing you to forget your status as a child of God? How are you ensuring that you always remember who you really are?
3. In Christ we find grace and peace which is what we need to live this life. Have you struggled to experience God's grace and peace in the past or lately? What do you think is causing the struggle?
4. This weekend we were reminded in Ephesians 1:4-7:

*You are chosen*

*You are pursued by the Father*

*You belong to Him*

*You are redeemed and forgiven*

Which of the above truths do you struggle to internalize and believe in and why? Share with your group.

5. Share with your group one thing that you will do this week to show others that you are a child of God?

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Pray for your group in that they may truly believe and understand their position as children of God and live the life He desires for us.