KEY SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 3:10-11 (NLT)

10 God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

11 This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians 4:1-3 (NLT)

1 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.

2 Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

3 Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

Ephesians 4:11-13 (NLT)

¹¹ Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. 12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. 13 This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord. measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

Ephesians 5:1-22(NLT)

START TALKING

Pastor Lyle opened saying that the home was the most important relational sphere in our life. The New Testament is written to the first generation of Christians on how to live. They were to leave behind all they had naturally inherited about family relationships in the new defined and reshaped relationships of Jesus.

What was the most important thing you learned from your parents? How did your parents shape your view of God, the Bible and the Church?

START DISCUSSING

REVIEW OF THE JOURNEY SO FAR:

Read Ephesians 3:10-11

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE CHURCH

What an amazing statement about God's purpose for the church. Discuss how wisdom can be displayed in rich and varied ways. Who is the audience? And when did this plan begin?

Read Ephesians 4:1-3

LIVE WORTHY OF THE CALL

Ephesians 4:1 transitions from the theological truths of the first three chapters to its application in living. So, 4:1 is the first instruction in living. Chapters 4-6 is how to live a life worthy of our call.

What is the first subject Paul addresses in living a worthy life (vs 2)? How does the unity of believers impact the home?

Read Ephesians 4:11-13

How the Church Works

Take a few minutes and discuss what you learned these verses about how the church works in accomplishing God's work.

What are the goals of this work?

How does the proper function of the church impact the home?

Read each section of Ephesians 5:1-22 as you discuss the following. **GODLY LIVING**

5:1 How are we to imitate God?/5:2 How are we to imitate Christ? 5:3-6 Discuss the kinds of speech and lifestyles to be avoided.

How do people excuse these sins?

5:10 Discuss how to carefully determine what pleases the Lord. 5:8-9, 11-14 How does Paul use light and darkness to convey right and wrong living?

5:15 Now fools and wise are the two kinds of living.

What is the key to living wisely and not foolishly?

5:16-17 Discuss the implications of each verse

5:18 Discuss the parallel between being drunk and controlled by the Spirit

5:21 How can multiple people submit to each other?