



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“EPHESIANS 1:1-14” ON AUGUST 18-21, 2022

CONNECT

How did last week’s passage we read/discussed affect your week?

DISCOVER: EPHESIANS 1:1-14

What did the passage say (in your own words) or what impacted you/did you take away from the sermon this week?

How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?

Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn’t understand, phrases that didn’t make sense, etc.)?

EPHESIANS: The mission of CU Church is to “Love God, Love People;” just how do we do that? The writer of Ephesians, the apostle Paul, clearly describes how God sees each of us: He chose you. Loved you. Pursued you. Forgave you. Redeemed you. Adopted you as His own. The first 3 chapters of Ephesians detail the lavish love which God has offered to each of us, and the last 3 chapters describe how we can respond to that love in all aspects of our lives – with praise and thankfulness!

EPHESIANS 1:1-14 Paul was writing to a city overwhelmed with idol worship and whose culture was motivated by fear of pleasing those idols. His purpose was not to change the system, but to change the people within it!

Fear and Motivation

- Have you ever been afraid of God? What part does fear play in your desire to please Him?
- Can you see any parallels between the culture of Ephesus and our culture today regarding what motivates and drives people? How closely are fear and motivation connected in our culture, and how do we in Christ approach that situation?

In Christ and Spiritual Blessings

- Paul addressed his letter to the saints in Ephesus, the “faithful in Christ Jesus;” what does it mean to you to be “in Christ” and to be given every ‘spiritual blessing in Christ?”
- What are those spiritual blessings, and which is most significant to you? What hope does that give you?
- What does it mean to you to know that you are CHOSEN and PURSUED by God? ADOPTED as HIS OWN CHILD! How does that impact what you do and say each day?
- Jason described the use of the term “His will” as “His DESIRE.” How do you respond to that knowledge as you read verses 4-10?
- In this passage, find each time “in accordance to...;” what picture of God do those phrases show us, and how does that influence your response to praise Him and serve Him?

Jesus’ Prayers for Himself and for Believers

- Read John 17; why did Jesus want believers to be ONE with Him? How does this passage connect to the Ephesians passage we looked at today?
- How does the study of these two passages help you see how much God loves you so that you are willing to love other people that way? What steps will you take to live that out this week in praise and thankfulness?

RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God’s Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join



CHURCH

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

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you at a CU Church gathering.

PRAY

... for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.