

STUDY GUIDE

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THE BOOK OF

EPHESIANS

Understanding who we are in Christ



If you are new to the Story of the Bible or would like to review the Story: Listen to the following TMTB Podcasts:

The Story: Understanding the "Big Story" (30 min)

Old Testament: Walk Through the Broad Story (27 min)

Timeline: New Testament Beginnings (35 min)

Letters: Paul's Writing to the Churches-Part 1 (30 min)

REVIEW

In light of new Gentile believers coming into the church, Paul writes this letter so that they may begin to understand who they are in Christ and what are the implications of that truth in their lives. Paul seeks to communicate these things by:

- 1) reviewing the promises, purposes, and faithfulness of God to and for Israel,
- 2) who the Gentiles were before faith,
- 3) how both Jews and Gentiles are now one in Christ,
- 4) how the Gentiles must grow in their understanding of God's plan and purposes in Christ,
- 5) and finally, how the Gentiles now ought to live in Christ.



MONDAY

Listen to the Ephesians Introduction podcast.

TUESDAY

Read Paul's letter to the Ephesians in one sitting. Pay special attention to the pronouns (remember that every "you" is plural).

Look at 2:11, who is Paul referring to when he says "you?"

Who is Paul referring to when he says "we?"



WEDNESDAY

Read Paul's letter to the Ephesians again in one sitting.

Are these readers new believers or not?

Why would it matter?

What is Paul's desire for them (Hint: 1:15-23)?

How do chapters 2-4 help fulfill that desire?



THURSDAY

Read Paul's letter to the Ephesians again in one sitting.

How does Paul's ministry (i.e., gift of God given to him for the Gentiles) related to 2:8-10 and chapter 4?

Is Paul's ministry unique?



FRIDAY

Read Paul's letter to the Ephesians again in one sitting.

How do chapters 4-6 (made up of imperatives) relate to Paul's desire (Wednesday's study), his role as an apostle (Thursday's study), and the building up of the church?