

Sermon Discussion Questions

Ephesians: Sealed In Him – Grant Braaten
28 September 2025
Sermon Text: Ephesians 1:11-14

AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20-30 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for specific needs of group members.

MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

This week we jump back into our sermon series in Ephesians. In his message this week entitled, **Sealed In Him**, Grant explores what it means to be “in Christ”. We see that we didn't attain our inheritance through effort, but rather we obtained it through grace. Grant also lets us know that the Bible isn't just about principles for better living; it's about encountering the Person who changes everything. Let's get going and find out more.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week you were asked to pray for one another. Did the Holy Spirit bring someone to mind for you to pray for?
2. Is there something that really stood out to you from Grant's message this week?
3. So far, everything we've encountered in Ephesians 1 is wrapped up, or found, “in Him”. Why do you think Paul keeps repeating this idea? What happens when our lives as Christians are not completely wrapped up in Him? Can we see how the entire Bible points to Christ and how everything culminates and is made perfect in Christ?
4. The point of the Word is that it is a living, breathing testimony of the person of Jesus Christ. It is not just a bunch of principles on how to live a good life. How should this knowledge impact how we read the Bible? How might we miss the point of the Word if we only read certain verses, often times, out of context and then try to apply them to our lives?

Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. Have you ever sat around for prolonged period of time hand-cranking a homemade ice cream maker? (careful how you answer this – it may indicate your age 😊)
2. Have you ever worked on a farm (bale hay, milk cows, fix barbed-wire fencing, ...)?
3. What is the best job you've ever worked at? What made it good?

5. Read Ephesians 1:11. Grant makes a big point of the word used by translators to describe our inheritance in Him. “In Him we have obtained an inheritance”. How does the choice of word used here radically impact what this means to us? There are numerous other instances in Paul’s letters where he talks about “attaining” something. Here he talks about “obtaining” something: an inheritance. (Obtaining describes possessing something, while attaining describes achievement). How does this reflect God’s grace?

6. During this message, Grant mentioned that God saves people and elevates people that we might not always think is right. (Especially when we think about who He elevates). Why is it that we sometimes think we know more and that our opinion on things are somehow better than God’s? What happens if we are unable to let God be God, and trust that His wisdom and knowledge are so much greater than ours?

7. In verse 13, we finally get to do something (remember we’ve been reminded through our series so far, that God has done it all). We listen and believe. That’s it. Why does this often seem to be more difficult for us than if there was some grand quest we were required to undertake?

8. What does it mean to be sealed with the Spirit?

APPLICATION

How are you doing letting God be God and submitting to His will? Ask the Holy Spirit to show you if there are areas where you are reluctant to let Him be God, but instead are prone to relying on your own will and wisdom. Take those things He brings up and surrender them to Him.

COMING UP

To join a small group or find out more about what is going on, click on the NWC App, the website <https://nwckc.com>, or the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page. Sermon study questions can also be found in all three locations.

Heart of the House. September 23 and 30, 6:30-8:30pm. 7102 N. Prospect Ave Gladstone, MO. Dinner is provided on both nights and childcare is available for children 3 months to 5th grade. Registration deadline is 16 September. Register at: <https://subsplash.com/newwinechurch/lb/ev/+jfq6kch>

The Call – Men’s Retreat. 3-4 October. Lake Maurer Retreat Center, Excelsior Springs, MO. Join us for two powerful days of spiritual growth, worship, brotherhood, and unforgettable fun — all centered on being Rooted in Christ. The guest speaker is renowned author, Bob Sorge. Registration extended until 19 September. Register at: <https://nwckc.com/men?sapurl=Lytxdm56L2xiL2V2LytjeDcyNnd6L3JlZ2lzdGVyP2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWU mZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZSZyZWNIbnRSb3V0ZT1hcHAud2ViLWFwcC5saWJyYXJ5LmNhbGVuZGFyJnJlY2Vu dFJvdXRlU2x1Zz0lMkJidngycHNj>

Haiti Joy Hope Silent Auction. 1:30-4:00pm, 5 October. Liberty Community Center, 1600 S Withers Rd Liberty, MO 64068. Come bid on amazing items from local retail and services, gift cards, and so much more! ALL proceeds go to caring for vulnerable kids in Haiti - supporting a School, Feeding Programs, and a Children's Home!

Child Dedications. 9:00 and 11:00 am, Oak Park High School, 825 NE 79th Terrace, Kansas City, MO.

Register at: [https://nwckc.com/child-](https://nwckc.com/child-dedications?sapurl=Lytxdm56L2xiL2V2LyszN2t6cHd0L3JlZ2lzdGVyP2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZSZyZWNIbnRSb3V0ZT1hcHAud2ViLWFwcC5saWJyYXJ5LmNhbGVuZGFyJnJlY2VudFJvdXRlU2x1Zz0lMkI3dmt2ZGo2)

[dedications?sapurl=Lytxdm56L2xiL2V2LyszN2t6cHd0L3JlZ2lzdGVyP2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZSZyZWNIbnRSb3V0ZT1hcHAud2ViLWFwcC5saWJyYXJ5LmNhbGVuZGFyJnJlY2VudFJvdXRlU2x1Zz0lMkI3dmt2ZGo2](https://nwckc.com/child-dedications?sapurl=Lytxdm56L2xiL2V2LyszN2t6cHd0L3JlZ2lzdGVyP2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZSZyZWNIbnRSb3V0ZT1hcHAud2ViLWFwcC5saWJyYXJ5LmNhbGVuZGFyJnJlY2VudFJvdXRlU2x1Zz0lMkI3dmt2ZGo2)

All Church Picnic. 1:00 – 4:00 pm, 12 October. Oak Grove Park, 800 NE 76th St, Kansas City, MO (just around the corner from Oak Park High School). Lunch will be provided. Bring a chair. Bring a game. Come hang out with your New Wine Church family. Get to know someone new. Bring a friend!

FINAL THOUGHT

We see not for the present, we shall at the last day. Meanwhile, submit.