

EPHESIANS
Salvation Blessings from the Triune God
Lesson #1, Ephesians 1:1-14
(Discussion Group Leaders)

- I. Consider the Apostle Paul's life before coming to Christ (See Acts 8:3; 9:1; 22:4; 26:9-11; I Cor. 15:9; Gal. 1:13; I Tim. 1:12-14). What encouragement can we derive from God's transformation of the Apostle Paul to apply to our own life?
- II. In vss. 3-6 we learn what the Father contributes to our salvation. What are we told in vs. 3 that is already given to every believer? What implications does this have for believers being able to live for God's glory?
 - A. What leads to sinners being saved by grace according to vss. 4-5?
 - B. If the Father did not elect sinners before the foundation of the world to adoption as sons, who would be saved? Why?
- III. In vss. 7-12 we learn what the Son contributes to our salvation. What are some of the things mentioned in vss. 7-9 and 11 that Jesus does for the elect?
 - A. What motivated Jesus to save us according to vs. 9? In what ways should this be an encouragement to us?
 - B. What does the phrase "in Him" mean from vss. 9 and 10? Are you "in Him," and if so, how do you know that you are "in Him?"
- IV. In vss. 13-14 we learn what the Holy Spirit contributes to our salvation. What does the Holy Spirit do for every believer? Why should this give us peace?
- V. What repeated phrase reveals the grand purpose and reason God's saves sinners by grace according to vss. 6, 12, and 14?

Prayer

- Consider all that Eph. 1:1-14 teaches us about what God has done for us and thank God for them.
- Consider the grand purpose for our salvation as stated three times in Eph. 1:6, 12, and 14. Ask God to help you fulfill that purpose by His grace.
- Pick one thing from Eph. 1:1-14 and pray it would be true for Anchor Bible Church.

Acts 8:3 (NAS): 3 But Saul began ravaging the church, entering house after house, and dragging off men and women, he would put them in prison.

Acts 9:1 (NAS): 1 Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest,

Acts 22:4 (NAS): 4 "I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and putting both men and women into prisons,

Acts 26:10–11 (NAS): 10 "And this is just what I did in Jerusalem; not only did I lock up many of the saints in prisons, having received authority from the chief priests, but also when they were being put to death I cast my vote against them.

11 "And as I punished them often in all the synagogues, I tried to force them to blaspheme; and being furiously enraged at them, I kept pursuing them even to foreign cities.

1 Corinthians 15:9 (NAS): 9 For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

Galatians 1:13 (NAS): 13 For you have heard of my former manner of life in Judaism, how I used to persecute the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it;

1 Timothy 1:12–14 (NAS): 12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service,

13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief;

14 and the grace of our Lord was more than abundant, with the faith and love which are found in Christ Jesus.