

## Bible Studies in the Book of Ephesians



# **STLUKE'S** LIVERPOOL a church for all people

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### 1. Ephesians 1:1-10 | Sunday 05 May

#### **Every Spiritual Blessing**

1. Before reading, discuss: How do you currently understand your identity in Christ? How does this impact your daily life?

2. Who is the author of this letter, and who are its intended recipients? (v.1)

3. What are some of the spiritual blessings mentioned that believers have in Christ? (v.3)

4. What does Paul say was God's purpose in choosing us before the creation of the world? (v.4)

5. How does Paul describe our relationship with God through Jesus Christ? (v.5-6)

6. According to verses 7-8, how are we redeemed, and what is the role of God's grace in our redemption?

7. What mystery does Paul refer to in verses 9-10?

8. Why does Paul emphasize that believers were chosen "before the creation of the world"? How does this influence our understanding of God's sovereignty and love?

9. Why is the concept of adoption as sons and daughters significant in understanding our relationship with God?

10. In verse 10, Paul talks about bringing unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. Why is this plan significant for us today?

11. Considering that we are chosen by God and blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ, how should this truth affect our sense of identity and worth?

12. Understanding that we are redeemed and forgiven through His grace, how can this shape the way we approach our past mistakes and sins?

13. Reflecting on the mystery of God's will to bring unity in all things under Christ, what practical steps can we take to contribute to unity within our church, community, and the broader body of Christ?

### 2. Ephesians 1: 11-14 | Sun 12 May

#### Our Inheritance and Seal

1. How do you understand the concept of inheritance in the context of your faith?

2. What does Paul say we have been predestined for according to God's plan? (v.11)

3. How do we know that we are God's possession? (v.14)

4. What is the significance of the Holy Spirit as a deposit or seal? (v.13-14)

5. Why is the concept of inheritance important in understanding our relationship with God?

6. Why is the Holy Spirit described as a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance?

7. Knowing that we have an inheritance and are sealed with the Holy Spirit, how should this affect our confidence in our salvation and future with God? 8. In what ways can we honor God as His possession?

### 3. Ephesians 1: 15-23 | Sun 19 May

#### Paul's Prayer for Spiritual Wisdom

1. What kinds of things do you typically pray for, for yourself and for others?

2. What does Paul pray for the Ephesians to receive from God? (v.17)

3. What are the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints? (v.18)

4. How is Christ's authority described in this passage? (v.20-22)

5. Why does Paul emphasize the need for spiritual wisdom and revelation?

6. Why is understanding the power of God towards us crucial for our faith?

7. How can we pray for ourselves and others following Paul's example?

8. Reflect on the power of God that raised Christ from the dead. How does this power impact your daily life and decisions?

### 4. Ephesians 2: 1-10 | Sun 26 May

#### Made Alive in Christ

1. Can you share a before-and-after moment in your life when you felt you moved from darkness to light?

2. How does Paul describe our state before coming to faith in Christ? (v.1-3)

3. What does God do for us out of His great love and mercy? (v.4-5)

4. What purpose does God have for us in doing good works? (v.10)

5. Why is it important to remember our state before Christ?

6. Why does Paul emphasize grace in our salvation?

7. How can we live out the reality of being God's workmanship, created for good works?

8. In what areas of your life can you better demonstrate the transformation that has occurred because of God's mercy and love?

### 5. Ephesians 2:11-22 | Sun 02 June

#### **One in Christ**

1. Have you ever felt like an outsider? How did it feel when you were welcomed in?

2. What was the condition of Gentiles before Christ according to Paul? (v.11-12)

3. How have Christ's death and resurrection changed the relationship between Jews and Gentiles? (v.13-18)

4. What does Paul say we are being built into? (v.21-22)

5. Why is the concept of peace so important in this passage?

6. Why does Paul use the imagery of a building to describe the church?

7. How can we foster unity and peace within our church community, especially with those different from us?

8. In what practical ways can we contribute to building up the church as God's dwelling place?

### 6. Ephesians 3: 1-13 | Sun 9 June

#### The Mystery of the Gospel Revealed

1. Have you ever had a moment where something about your faith "clicked" and you understood it in a new way?

2. What mystery is Paul referring to? (v.4-6)

3. How does Paul view his role in revealing this mystery? (v.7-9)

4. What is the purpose of the church according to this passage? (v.10-11)

5. Why is the revelation of this mystery significant for Gentiles?

6. Why is the church important in God's plan, according to Paul?

7. How can we live out the reality that we are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ?

8. What role can you play in making the manifold wisdom of God known?

### 7. Ephesians 3: 14-21 | Sun 16 June

### Paul's Prayer for Strength and Understanding

1. When have you felt a deep sense of God's love for you?

2. What does Paul pray for the Ephesians in this passage? (v.16-19)

3. How is God able to answer Paul's prayer? (v.20-21)

4. Why does Paul pray for strength, rootedness in love, and comprehension of Christ's love?

5. Why is it important for believers to grasp the extent of Christ's love?

6. How can we cultivate a deeper understanding and experience of Christ's love in our own lives?

7. In what ways can you encourage others to experience the fullness of God?

### 8. Ephesians 4: 1-16 | Sun 23 June

#### Unity and Maturity in the Body of Christ

1. How do you define spiritual maturity? How do you see it expressed in a community?

2. What are the characteristics of the unity Paul describes? (v.2-3)

3. What gifts are given to the church, and for what purpose? (v.11-12)

4. What does it mean to grow up into Christ, the head of the church? (v.15)

5. Why is unity within the church so crucial according to Paul?

6. Why does Paul emphasize the need for growth and building up the body?

7. In what ways can you contribute to the unity and maturity of your church community?

8. How can you use your gifts to build up the body of Christ?

### 9. Ephesians 4:17-5:2 | Sun 30 June

#### Living as Children of Light

1. Can you recall a moment when you made a conscious decision to change a behavior because it didn't align with your identity as a Christian?

2. How does Paul contrast the Gentile way of life with the life believers are called to? (4:17-24)

3. What are some specific behaviors Paul mentions that should be put off or put on? (4:25-32)

4. How does Paul describe what it means to live as children of light? (5:1-2)

5. Why does Paul use the imagery of clothing to describe the transformation of a believer's life?

6. Why is it important for Christians to have a distinctly different way of living?

7. Identify a "garment" you need to take off and one you need to put on in your spiritual life. How will you do this? 8. In what ways can you imitate God and live a life of love, as Christ loved us?

### **10. Ephesians 5:3-20 | Sun 07 July**

#### Living Wisely

1. How do you determine what is wise or unwise in your day-to-day decisions?

2. What behaviors does Paul warn against, and why? (5:3-7)

3. How does Paul instruct the Ephesians to live as children of light? (5:8-14)

4. What does Paul say about making the most of every opportunity? (5:15-17)

5. Why is it critical for believers to discern what pleases the Lord?

6. Why does Paul emphasize the importance of understanding God's will?

7. How can you apply Paul's instruction to "not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is" in your life?

8. What practical steps can you take to make the most of every opportunity in living out your faith?