

Next Steps:

- This week, I will read the book of Ephesians
- I will find and highlight these key words: rich(es), grace, glory, fullness (filled up or fill), in Christ, and in him.
- I want my identity to be defined by Christ's identity.

Memory Verse –

*Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
To the saints who are in Ephesus,
and are faithful in Christ Jesus:
Grace to you and peace
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Prayer Requests



Ephesians

This Week: Introduction

Ephesians 1:1-2

This Week: Paul starts his letter with his usual salutation. We will look at Paul's story and the story of the church in Ephesus. Then we will think about our own stories and the importance of God's grace and peace in our lives.

Open

1. If you could explain four facts of the gospel to an interested friend, what would you say?
2. What difference has God's grace made in your life?

Read Ephesians 1:1-2

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To the saints who are in Ephesus,
and are faithful in Christ Jesus:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul an Apostle

Read Acts 26:4-23

1. What was Paul's life like before he met the risen Lord?
(4-5; 9-11)
2. What was Paul's main conflict with the Jewish leaders? (6-8)
3. What was Jesus' question to Paul? (14)
4. What was Jesus' commission to Paul? (16-18)
5. What did Paul emphasize in his preaching? (20-23)

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

1. What does Paul consider to be “of first importance?” (3–5)
2. What is the value of listing the appearances? (5–8)
3. Why do you think Paul stresses God’s grace? (9–11)

Reflect

1. What difference does the resurrection of Jesus make?
2. How would Christianity be different without the resurrection?
3. How would your life be different without the resurrection?

The Saints in Ephesus

Read Acts 19

1. Where did Paul preach? (8–10)
2. What was the result? (10)
3. What happened with the sons of Sceva? (11–16)
4. What was the result? (17–20)
5. Why was there a riot in Ephesus? (23–27)
6. What happened? (28–34)
7. How did the city clerk handle it? (35–41)
8. How would you summarize Paul’s ministry in Ephesus?
9. How do you imagine life was like for a Christian in Ephesus?

Paul’s Greeting: Grace to You ...

1. How would you explain grace to someone new to Christianity?
2. Why do you think Paul incorporated the word grace into his greeting?

Read Titus 2:11–14

1. What does grace train people to do? (12–13)
2. What does this say about the difficulty of living a Christian life?
3. What kind of people does grace produce? (14)
4. How does the Christian life relate to Jesus’ death?
5. How does the Christian life related to Jesus’ return?

... and Peace

1. How is a Christian’s peace related to God’s grace?
2. How would you describe Christian peace to someone new to Christianity?

Read Romans 5:1–11

1. What does it mean to be “justified by faith?”
2. What are some benefits of being justified by faith? (1–2)
3. For the believer, what does suffering produce? (3–5)
4. How is that related to peace?
5. How does Paul describe our lives before justification? (6, 8, 10)
6. How does Jesus’ death change all this? (9–10)

Take-Away

What is your take away from our time together?