

OUR IDENTITY

EPHESIANS

Sermon Discussion Curriculum – Our Identity– Ephesians 1:1-10 – September 4, 2022

Helpful Resources

Check out one of these helpful resources:

- 1) *Gospel Identity* – Brody Jespersen - <https://bit.ly/3Rm1wdV>
- 2) *Ephesians for You* – Richard Coekin - <https://amzn.to/3AB4699>
- 3) *The Book of Ephesians* – J.D. Greear - <https://bit.ly/3PYTc2x>

Allow God to speak to you through His written Word. The goal of this time is to have quality connections and time together. Choose questions from Know, Grow, and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. Don't feel like you need to use all the questions. Feel free to add your own too! We are praying for you as you lead your D-Group this week!

KNOW:

- When was a time when you wondered what the purpose of life was? And/or what was God's ultimate purpose?
- God loves us unconditionally. How do you define this kind of love?
- What are some examples of how God has demonstrated His unconditional love for you? How does that shape your identity?
- How do you define grace?
- What is your experience with adoption (or someone you know)? What was meaningful about this experience?
- If you were to list out the 10 Commandments of your family, what would some of them be?



GROW:

- Read v. 1-3. What are some examples of God's spiritual blessings? How do His blessings motivate us during challenging seasons of life?
- Read v. 4-6. How does knowing God chooses us before the foundation of the world help you deal with past mistakes? How does this truth bring encouragement for your future?
- What does it mean to be in Christ?
- According to verse 5, Christians are adopted by God through Jesus. How does this adoption give you security and identity to live with confidence and hope?
- How do we become, as Paul says in verse 4, holy and blameless? What's our part in becoming holy and blameless? What's God's part?
- Read v 7-10. How do Christians access and receive God's grace and forgiveness?
- What is God's purpose according to verses 9-10? New Testament commentator F.F. Bruce calls God's ultimate plan, "*to gather up the fragmented and alienated universe*". What do you think about this statement about God's ultimate plan?



SHOW:

- Who is someone that you know that might benefit from the gospel truth discussed in this passage of Scripture? How could you show and share that truth with them?
- What does it look like to walk this week in the truth you learned from this passage?
- Pray for one another, like Paul did, that "the eyes of your heart will be enlightened" (Ephesians 1:18).
- What other needs exist in your group? Spend some time praying for them.