

OUR IDENTITY

EPHESIANS

Sermon Discussion Curriculum – Our Identity– Ephesians 1:11-23 – September 18, 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:

- What is the best gift you've ever received? Why was it the best?
- What is one item that you have on display in your home or office, about which you are happy to tell people?
- Describe a time in your life when you felt like you just couldn't measure up?
- What are some common stereotypes or groups you remember from school? (Jocks, preps, etc.). What group or groups were you a part of?
- When have you seen someone shown mercy when they deserved punishment? What happened as a result?



GROW:

- How do verses 1-3 describe being 'dead in trespasses and sins?'
- Explain the paradox of how sinners are both dead in sins, yet alive in other ways. What are the dangers of 'stretching the metaphor' of being dead?
- What are verses 1-3 saying about desperate predicament that sinners are in? What is it about being 'dead in sin' that is both self-deceiving and deceiving to others?
- What remedy do verses 4-6 give us for being dead in sin?
- What do these verses imply about what God sees in us that makes us 'worth' saving?
- Based on these verses, how would you define "grace?"
- Read verse 7. What should our response be to this verse?
- In what way should the last phrase of verse 9 be evident in our lives?
- How does Paul describe the contrast between who they are now in Christ with who they once were?



SHOW:

- What is a change you might make in your life after looking at this passage?
- Who in your life can you encourage with this passage? Why do they come to your mind?
- Pray that God will grow your trust in him. If you have been trying to be good enough for God, ask Him to help you rest in His goodness rather than your own. Ask Him for rest in the identity He gave you and not the identity you have adopted or created for yourself.