

EPHESIANS SERIES

# BUILT ON BIBLICAL BEDROCK

THE CHURCH THAT PLEASES GOD

STUDY GUIDE • EPHESIANS 1:7-10



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THE CHURCH THAT PLEASES GOD

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# The Richness of Our Redemption in Christ

EPHESIANS 1:7-10

#### **WELCOME:**

# Fixing Our Focus

#### Suggested icebreaker:

Have members share with the group how they received God's gift of salvation. Who shared the gospel with them, how they reacted when they heard the good news, and how their lives have changed because of this.

### **WORSHIP:**

Adoring Our God

#### Suggested songs:

- The Lord is My Salvation
- This is Amazing Grace
- All Creatures of Our God and King

## **WORD:** Understanding the Word

#### **LESSON AIM**

- Members will commit to turn away from sin.
- 2. Members will worship and praise God's gracious gift of salvation.
- 3. Members will submit their lives to Christ's lordship.

#### INTRODUCTION

In the previous lesson, we saw how God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In this lesson, we will learn of one of the spiritual blessings God has blessed us with: salvation. We will look at how salvation is a blessing from God, the reason why God gave us salvation, and the ultimate purpose of salvation.

#### WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

- 1. What are the things that we have "in Christ?" (v. 7a)
- God lavished on us those things according to what measure? (v. 7b-8)
- 3. What is the mystery of God's will which He had set forth in Christ? What are the things that God wants to unite in Christ? (vv. 9-10)

#### WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- What is redemption? What does it mean to redeem something or someone? What is the connection between our redemption and our forgiveness? (cf. 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 Peter 2:24)
- 2. God lavished on us the blessing of salvation according to the riches of His grace. What does grace mean? How did God pour out His grace in Christ? (cf. Romans 3:23-24; John 1:16-17)
- At the end of earth's history, Christ will rule over all in the Millennial Kingdom. What is the connection between Christ's rule and God's first command to man? Do believers have a part in the Millennial Kingdom? (cf. Genesis 1:28; Revelation 20:4)

## **WALK:** Applying the Word

#### **APPLICATIONS**

#### - CHILDREN -

- Share a time you asked for forgiveness from someone (parent, grandparent, teacher, friend, classmate, etc.) whom you hurt because of your words or actions and they forgave you. How did you feel?
- 2. In today's lesson we learn about God's great love and forgiveness. Share how you have experienced God's love and grace.

#### - YOUTH -

- As teenagers and students, it can be awkward and even difficult to share the Good News of salvation to your friends and peers. What are some of the factors that can possibly hinder you from sharing the Gospel?
- 2. Though it is God's desire for us, forgiveness can still be a difficult discussion, especially for those who have been traumatized or deeply hurt. Who are some of the people in your life right now who you want to begin that process of forgiveness with?

#### - ADULTS -

- How can you thank and praise God for the precious blessing of salvation?
- 2. In Christ, we have been redeemed or set free from slavery to sin. How are you living out this truth in your life?
- 3. When Christ returns to earth, He will rule over all things. We will be ruling with Him in the Millennial Kingdom. Will you commit to allow Christ to rule over your life as early as now?

## **WALK:** Applying the Word

#### - COMMUNAL -

- 1. Who are you as a Christian? What does God intend for us, as a community of believers, to be aligned to His gracious saving purpose?
- 2. What would 'bringing together all things in heaven and on earth in Christ' look like in your own community?

#### - GLOBAL -

- The stress for verses 9-10 is placed on God's overarching purposes for the <u>whole</u> of created order - a <u>universe</u> centered and reunited in Christ. What role do you see yourself playing in this?
- 2. What would 'bringing together all things in heaven and on earth in Christ' look like globally?







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