

Memory Verse – Ephesians 1:3

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places”

Read Ephesians 1:1-23 aloud (*Consider breaking it up by asking multiples volunteers to read selected portions.*)

1. What images come to your mind when you hear the word “saint”? Does Paul seem to share that understanding? How do you know? Identify evidence of God’s love for you in the past (v. 3-6), in the present (v. 6-11), and in the future (v. 12-14). What is your response in light of these blessings and promises?
2. Why is it important to know that God intentionally chose you to be part of His family? Find at least 3 other verses in the Bible that speak of God choosing us. How does knowing this give you confidence and security in your salvation?
3. What does the fact that God adopted us show us about His nature and character? What does the text say are God’s purposes for salvation?
4. How would you define “redemption”? How does your redemption shape the way you deal with your sin and your struggles?
5. What did Paul say was the Holy Spirit’s function in salvation (1:13-14)? How does the Spirit enable you to live a “holy and blameless”(v.4) life? Find at least 3 other Bible verses that speak to this being the Christian’s standing before God.

6. What did Paul mean by "the Spirit of wisdom" (v.17) and "the eyes of your heart" (v. 18)? Why do our spiritual eyes need to be reopened constantly (See 2 Corinthians 3:18 & John 16:13-15)?

7. Read vv. 19-20. How would you go about your day if you fully understood the power available to you as a child of God? What would look different about your life?

Personal Application/Reflection

1. How does knowing God has adopted you change your view of yourself and of God?

2. How does knowing that God has chosen you affect the way you love others (fellow Christians, and also non-believers)?

3. Which of the spiritual blessings in Christ, from this passage do you have the hardest time believing is true for you? Why? What encouragement are you finding as you go deeper into God's word?

4. Take time to pray with and for one another in your breakout time.