

Ephesians Devotionals Week 2

Overview:

Watch the Bible Project video titled: " Overview: Ephesians" on YouTube for a better understanding of the whole book. It's super helpful! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y71r-T98E2Q>

Day 1- Read Ephesians 4:1-16.

- Paul just spent chapters 1-3 reminding the Ephesians of the Gospel story! Now both Jews and Gentiles are united together in Christ. Through faith in Christ, the Ephesians are saved, forgiven, adopted, and now seated with Christ!

- What is Paul's goal for the Ephesians (vs 13-16)?

- Paul uses the word maturity twice (in opposition to infants). Given the wording of vs 13-16, how does Paul hope the Ephesians will mature?

- If maturity means growing in the knowledge of God (vs 13) and attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (vs 13); how specifically do you need to grow in your "maturity"? How can you ensure you will grow in these ways?

Day 2- Read Ephesians 4:17-24.

- Gentiles are non-Jewish people. Most Gentiles in the first century did not fear the One True God; instead, they worshipped the gods of Roman world. Why do you think Paul commands these Gentile converts in Ephesus what he does in vs 17?

- As a result of being saved by Christ, we are now to live for Christ. What does it mean to "put off" our old self?

- What exactly does Paul mean when he tells the Ephesians to "put on" the new self?

Day 3- Read Ephesians 4:25-5:2.

- Paul describes many sins of the "old self" and what it looks like to have a righteous "new self". Which of the sins from Eph. 4:25-5:2 do you need to "put off" in order to be matured into Christ's image?

- What righteous acts do you need to "put on"?

Day 4- Read Ephesians 5:3-14.

- Paul lists many ways of life that are “improper for God’s holy people”. List out all of those lifestyles listed in vs 3-4.
- Sexual immorality, greed, and obscenity are all incredibly common in our American culture. What are the negative consequences of living this kind of lifestyle (vs 5-6)?
- Why do you think so many “Christians” in our circles live as the Gentiles do? Why should this passage cause these people to have some fear?

Day 5- Read Ephesians 5:15-20.

- Paul begins this passage by commanding the Ephesians to “be very careful how you live”. Given all that you have read this week, what do you think Paul means by this?
- Paul wants the Ephesians to live wise, making the most of every opportunity. How are Christians today able to make the most of every opportunity? Is he talking about holy living? Sharing the gospel? Something else? Support your answer.
- Paul closes this week’s devotional by “giving thanks to God the Father for everything” (vs 20). Either individually or as a family, close by giving thanks to God in prayer for anything that comes to mind.