



Connection Group Participant Guide July 26, 2020

Ephesians 1:1-14

Key Principles

Ephesians is a great letter about the church. It deals, however, not so much with a congregation in the city of Ephesus in Asia Minor as with the worldwide church, the head of which is Christ (Eph. 4:15), the purpose of which is to be the instrument for making God's plan of salvation known throughout the universe (Eph. 3:9-10). Yet, this reality is anchored in God's saving love, shown in Jesus Christ (Eph. 2:4-10).

Highlight

"In him we have _____ through his blood, the _____ of our trespasses, according to the riches of his _____" (v. 7).

Explain

Is there a difference between being redeemed and being forgiven (v. 7)?

Apply

God's rich mercy in Christ saves sinners. This free gift is by grace through faith alone (1:7-8; 2:4-14). Have you asked God yet for this gift; to be saved from your sins?

Respond in Prayer

We encourage you to set aside time to pray over what God has shown you in His Word. Read through Psalm 8 and listen with your heart to what it has to say. We recommend praying through this psalm on your own at home and together with your Connection Group.

- **Adoration:** Give God praise for the things that you see in Psalm 8.
- **Confession:** Plead with God for His mercy. Confess to God how we have not been steadfast and faithful like He has been to us.
- **Thanksgiving:** Thank God for being a God of redemption and unity.
- **Supplication:** Ask God that He would help you to be unified with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Pray that He would protect you from hurting others and from having a divisive attitude in the church.