

EPHESIANS 2—Community Group Questions

Ephesians 2:1-22

1—When did you experience the kingdom this past week? Did you meet anyone new at NCC? Did you find out if they were attending a community group?

About Ephesians:

- Ephesians was written by Paul in 60-62AD (30 years after the Resurrection).
- Paul is under house arrest in Rome when he writes Ephesians.
- We read about Paul's time in Ephesus in Acts 19/20—Paul establishes the church in Ephesus, stays 3 years. (3rd Missionary Trip)
- Ephesus is in present day TURKEY, at the time major trade route, 250,000 people.
- At the time—EPHESUS was a melting pot of the multi-societies. Different cultures, different pagan gods.
- Paul emphasizes WHO THEY ARE and WHOSE THEY ARE!
- Two halves—Chapters 1-3 (What is the Gospel of Jesus Christ), 4-6 (How to live out the Gospel of JC)
- “IN CHRIST”, or equivalent to IN CHRIST. –35 times!
- Your identity is in Christ and how your identity impacts how you live your life.
- THEME VERSE—**“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.” Ephesians 2:8**

2—Read Ephesians 2:1. What's the difference between being “bad” and being “dead”? Why does it matter that we were dead before Christ? What did being dead look like in your life before Jesus? How are you currently experiencing being alive in Christ?

3—Read Ephesians 2:8-10. Why are these verses so important to our theology? Do you struggle with salvation being aside from our own effort? How do we live if we are working to receive salvation versus having been already received salvation as a gift from God?

4—Read Ephesians 2:11. What does it mean to “remember that you were once Gentiles in the flesh”? How do you think it impacts how we see others when we remember where God has saved us from? Why do you think this matters to Paul?

5—Read Ephesians 2:19-22. What do you think this means for unity in the church? How should we live and respond in light of the fact that we are being “built together for God's dwelling”? How should we live in preparation for God to come and dwell with us?

6—What are you hearing from the Lord in these verses? How can you apply these verses in your life?