

Metro Women's Bible Study
Ephesians 1:7-14

Lesson 2

DAY ONE & TWO: Read Ephesians 1:7-14

1. Read through this week's verses using your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase.

a. Ephesians 1:7-14 has been divided into 2 sections. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

Verses 7-12

Verses 13-14

OPTIONAL: From the list below record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

This Lesson: *God, Jesus, Spirit, and the phrase in Him or in Christ.*

OPTIONAL: Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Ephesians 1:7-14. Remember, as you mark the words: *God, Jesus, and Holy Spirit*, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to Them.

2. Write out Ephesians 1:7.

3. The word Redemption used here in verse 7 indicates a durative action and can be paraphrased "in Whom we are continually having redemption" or "we have and are still having it". Look up the word redemption in your Concordance and write out the English translation.

Redemption-

a. The **redemption** of a sinner is only possible by payment of the **ransom** price. What was that payment and how much did your *redemption* cost? See 1 Peter 1:18-19

4. *In Him we have redemption through His blood.* The shedding of Christ's blood was the penalty price for your sins and mine. The Old Testament foreshadowed this sacrifice in the blood of the victims that were offered under the Old Testament Law, not for redemption but for purposes of purification and as a temporary covering of sins committed. What does Jesus say about this in Matthew 26:28?

5. How do we see the effectiveness of **Christ's blood** in what it accomplished in the following passages?

Hebrews 10:19-20

Ephesians 2:13

Colossians 1:19-20

6. Since Christ paid for us with His very own blood, what is our responsibility to Him? Underline what you discover from the following passages.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."

1 Corinthians 7:23 "You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men."

1 Peter 2:9 ⁹But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

Titus 2:14 ¹⁴Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works."

7. A key phrase in this section *in Him*; for it is because of Him we have all of the privileges and rights of a child of God, and you dear sisters are His precious children! According to verse 7, what does it say we have *in Him*?

In these verses we focus on Jesus, our precious Redeemer. In Christ, **we have**, or more literally "are having," this blessing of forgiveness of sins. Think of it! Our guilt is removed, utterly gone! Forever! No more condemnation for those who are safe in the Beloved.

8. Do you struggle with the fact that you are forgiven from your past & present sins? Do you struggle with condemnation? If not for yourself, maybe a friend in Christ could benefit from the following passages: Psalm 103:11-12 & Romans 8:1-5.

Psalm 103:11-12

Romans 8:1-5

9. What does the "*richness of His grace*" mean to you and how have you experienced it in your life?

a. What does 2 Timothy 1:9 reveal about grace?

10. What a beautiful picture of God's grace we have in Jesus Christ! "*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence.*" Look up the word **abound** in your Concordance and write out the English translation.

Abound-

The Greek word translated "abound" means "an exceeding measure, something above the ordinary." God's grace toward us is not squeezed out from an eye-dropper or carefully rationed like water during a drought. His grace is a Niagara of superabundance so lavish that we marvel at its display!

11. Because our Father has so abundantly overdone Himself for us who deserve nothing from Him, we should determine to "overdo" ourselves (if that were possible) in service to Him! How can you apply this in practical ways to your life? See 1 Corinthians 15:58.

Today, as you approach God to "find grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:16), remember how much there is--grace beyond measure!

His love has no limit, His grace has no measure,
His power has no boundary known unto men;
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth and giveth and giveth again. --Flint

DAY THREE: Read Ephesians 1:9

1. We see again, in verse 9, that God does great things for us *according to His good pleasure*. What does this verse say He has done?

Mystery as used in Scripture (*mystērion*) refers to the revelation of something that was previously hidden or known only vaguely but now is more fully made known.

2. Define the *mysteries of God* using Colossians 1:26–27

3. Summarize what the *mystery of God* is according to Ephesians 3:3–11.

4. How does God reveal His mysteries to us from 1 Corinthians 2:10?

5. Why did God make known to us the mystery of His will? See verse 9b.

6. **Good pleasure** (2107) (**eudokia**) in the Greek means His good will or pleasure. It refers to God's goodwill or good intent. The delight which God has in blessing saints is found in the fact that what He does for them is dictated by what is good for them. Have you looked at the circumstances of your life, good or bad, as God's good pleasure towards you? Why or why not?

7. "*Which he purposed in himself*" His purposes originated in his own mind, and were concealed until he chose to make them known. See 2 Timothy 1:9-10a

DAY FOUR: Read Ephesians 1:10-12

1. What is the mystery of God's will that is revealed in Ephesians 1:10?

2. Notice the word *that* in Ephesians 1:10-12. This word indicates that God does things for a reason. Record His intentions using these verses.

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

3. *That in the dispensation of the fullness of the times.* Let's consider this word dispensation by looking it up in the Concordance and writing out the English translation.

Dispensation-

4. **Dispensation** means stewardship or administration; a dispensation or arrangement of things: a scheme or plan. The meaning here is, that this plan was formed in order or "unto" this end, that in the full arrangement of times, or in the arrangements completing the filling up of the times, God might gather together in one all things. What is your response to all that God has done in Christ for you?

5. **Oikonomia** stresses obligation, responsibility, and faithfulness of the servant to his master in carrying out an entrusted task. In the secular Greek it referred literally to the management of a household by the steward who manages a house and is accountable to the owner. How does the definition of this word challenge you in your walk?

6. The New Living Translation translates Ephesians 1:10-12 as follows: *And this is his plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth. 11Furthermore, because of Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us from the beginning, and all things happen just as he decided long ago. 12God's purpose was that we who were the first to trust in Christ should praise our glorious God.* Choose a phrase from this translation and share what it means to you.

7. **In Him**, (last phrase in Ephesians 1:10) fits more appropriately at the beginning of verse 11 than at the end of verse 10. Jesus Christ is the source of our divine **inheritance** and apart from Him the only eternal thing a person can receive from God is condemnation. These truths are life changing! How are you laying hold of them and living in the light of them?

8. According to Ephesians 1:11, what is ours in Christ? “

9. What do the following passages reveal about this inheritance?

Ephesians 1:3

1 Peter 1:4

10. God has an eternal **purpose** for all things. If God is God at all, He is sovereign. He cannot work independently of His own nature, for then He would cease to be God; something that is impossible. Look up the word purpose in the Concordance and write out the English translation.

Purpose-

11. God is wise; therefore, His eternal purpose towards you is a wise one. He is a powerful God; therefore, He is able to accomplish what He purposes for you. He is a loving God; therefore, what He purposes will manifest His love for you. He is an unchanging God; therefore, His purpose is unchanging. How does your understanding of the purposes of God encourage you or exhort you?

12. From verse 11, how is His purpose accomplished?

13. Write out Ephesians 1:12.

a. Believers " who were the first to hope" are trophies of the grace of God, exhibiting what He can do with such unlikely raw materials, and thus bringing glory to Him. How humbling that God would choose to use you and I to bring glory to Him! In what ways are you challenged by this?

DAY FIVE: Read Ephesians 1:13-14

1. Only the saved are partakers of this rich inheritance proclaimed in the previous verses. According to verse 13, what are the four steps of salvation?

a.

b.

c.

d.

2. What is the *word of truth*?

3. In verses 13 and 14 we see the Holy Spirit as the One who is the Guarantor of all that God has declared for us. According to verse 13, what happens to us, once we believe?

a. What do the following verses teach about this?

2 Corinthians 1:22

2 Timothy 2:19

4. Look up the word seal in your Concordance and write out the English translation.

Seal-

a. Using synonyms, define the word *seal*.

5. How is the Holy Spirit described in Ephesians 1:14?

6. Look up the word *guarantee* from your Concordance and Dictionary and write out the definitions.

Concordance: Guarantee-(Earnest)

Dictionary:

7. How does 2 Corinthians 1:22 & 2 Corinthians 5:5 confirm this? Highlight what you discover.

2 Corinthians 1:22 “²¹Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us *is* God, ²²who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.”

Corinthians 5:5 “⁵Now He who has prepared us for this very thing *is* God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.”

8. How long will the Holy Spirit be a *guarantee of our inheritance*?

a. Who is the purchased possession?

9. Notice the last phrase of verse 14. This is the third time Paul has used this phrase (verses 6 and 12). What is the phrase?

a. This would indicate that the response God is looking for from us is *praise*. How does this personally challenge you to live your life right now?

DAY SIX: Review Ephesians 1:7-14

1. Share one thing from this lesson that has impacted you.

2. Record in your Worksheets “**Truths about God, Truths about Jesus, Truths about the Holy Spirit, Truths about the Believer, and Instructions.**”

“O Israel, hope in the LORD;
For with the LORD *there is* mercy,
And with Him *is* abundant redemption.”
Psalm 130:7