



Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20

Post Grad Group Agenda

Lesson 3 – Week of October 12th

1. Mingling and catching up. (10 minutes) __:00 - __:10
2. Begin with a short prayer for your time together. (5 minutes) __:10 - __:15
3. Move to a time of accountability. (20 minutes) __:15 - __:35
 - i. **Accountability Questions on your Scripture Reading & Meditation**
 - ☐ How faithfully have you read and meditated on God's Word this week?
 - ☐ What passage stood out, and how did you apply it to your life?
 - ☐ Did you memorize or share Scripture with someone else?
 - ☐ How has God's Word shaped your decisions or perspective this week?
 - ii. **Homework**
 - ☐ Did you accomplish at least five devotionals this week?
 - ☐ Did you read *Union with Christ*, "Adopted by the triune God"?
 - ☐ Did you complete the Bible Study on Ephesians 1:15-23
4. Lesson Time. (40-55 minutes) __:35 - __:15 __:35 - __:30

From the Bible study on Ephesians 1:1-14

- i. Question 3: Paul prays that believers would come to know something they presumably already possess (hope, inheritance, power) rather than praying that they would newly receive it. What does that tell us about the relationship between having a spiritual truth and grasping or experiencing it?
Suggested answer: Possessing a truth and apprehending it are not identical. Paul prays that believers will increasingly understand and experience realities already given to them in Christ.
- ii. Question 4: What does the image of Christ as head and the church as his body communicate about their relationship? How is it more than membership in an organization?
Suggested answer: The image communicates organic dependence, shared life, unity, and Christ's governing authority. The church does not merely associate with Christ; it lives from and under its head.
- iii. Question 5: Where do you need to remember that the power that raised Christ is at work in believers? How could that truth shape your prayers this week?

From Union with Christ

- iv. Question 1: In Billings' adapted Kierkegaard parable, why is the day laborer disturbed rather than delighted when the emperor offers to make him his son-in-law?

Suggested answer: The laborer recognizes the immense difference in status between himself and the emperor. The offer is so overwhelming that it threatens his familiar identity and seems almost impossible to receive as genuine gift.

- v. Question 2: What does Billings say the Greek term *huiiothesia* meant in its ancient Roman legal context, and how does that background illuminate Paul's use of the word?

Suggested answer: *Huiiothesia* referred to a legal act by which an adopted person received a new family status, name, and inheritance. Paul uses it to emphasize the objective gift of belonging to God's household through Christ.

- vi. Question 3: Where do you keep God at a 'convenient distance'—welcoming his help while resisting his claim on your identity as his adopted child?

- vii. Question 4: How would approaching one decision or relationship as someone already adopted and beloved change what you do this week?

5. Prayer time (15 minutes) __:15 - __:30

__:30 - __:45

- i. Ask for specific prayer requests from members.
- ii. Pray for one another as you wish.
- iii. Write down these prayer requests so you can follow up in the next meeting.

HOMEWORK

Week of October 19th

- ☐ Complete Ephesians 2:1–10 Bible study.
- ☐ Read *Billings* Ch. 1, "God at a Convenient Distance."
- ☐ Decide who will be facilitating next week. The agenda can be **found online**.

****** Make sure you fill out the "Weekly Feedback Form" and the "Post Grad Group Facilitator Evaluation" at <http://gracehamptons.org/postgrad>