COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

EPHESIANS 01 – Blessing & Election – 11/08/2026

COMMUNION

Read Ephesians 1:7–8: *"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us."*

In Christ, we are chosen, adopted into God's family, redeemed, forgiven, and given the Holy Spirit. None of these blessings are something we have earned. They are gifts of God's extraordinary grace.

REVIEW

- **Paul discovered a new reality.** On the road to Damascus, Paul encountered the risen Jesus. He discovered that the world itself had changed through Jesus' resurrection—and he hadn't realized it. His entire understanding of reality was transformed.
- **Ephesians reveals what God has already accomplished.** Chapters 1–3 describe what God has done in Christ and what that means for us. Chapters 4–6 explain how we should live in response. God acts first. We respond.
- **God's blessing is about the flourishing of life**. Humanity was created to receive and extend God's blessing, but rebellion introduced sin, brokenness, and death. God promised Abraham that through him all the families of the earth would be blessed.
- **Jesus fulfills God's promise**. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus has begun reversing the curse and restoring creation. God's ultimate purpose is to bring everything in heaven and on earth into unity under Christ (Ephesians 1:10).
- **We have received every spiritual blessing in Christ.** We are chosen, adopted, redeemed, forgiven, and given the Holy Spirit—not because we deserve it, but because of God's grace.
- **We are blessed to become a blessing.** God's new creation has already begun, although its fullness awaits Jesus' return. We are invited to participate in His work by bringing love, reconciliation, and blessing into our relationships and communities.

DISCUSSION

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Did anything challenge or expand your understanding of the gospel?
2. Paul's encounter with Jesus completely changed how he understood reality. Have you ever experienced something that dramatically changed how you see God, yourself, or the world? How did it affect the way you lived?
3. Ephesians begins with what God has done before telling us what we should do. Why is that order important? How might our Christian lives change if we focused more on responding to God's grace than trying to earn His approval?
4. God's blessing is about the flourishing of life, not merely personal happiness or prosperity. How does this challenge our understanding of what it means to be blessed?
5. How might God want to use the blessings He has given you to bless others?
6. God's purpose is to bring all things into unity under Christ. Where do you see brokenness or division in your relationships or community? How might Jesus be inviting you to participate in His work of reconciliation?

PRAYER

Thank God for the blessings we have received in Christ.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to the new reality Jesus has established and help us live in response to His grace.
- Pray for opportunities to extend God's blessing, love, and reconciliation to others.