

5. What allows us to be enlightened regarding these three things given in verses 18 and 19 (1:19)? _____

6. Pray this prayer (verses 17-19) and take it with you for the day!

Friday (August 17)—**prayerfully** read Eph. 1:20-23.

1. When did God work His mighty power toward those who believe (mentioned in verse 19) (1:20)? _____

2. Where is Christ, relative to everything else (1:21)? _____

3. What is listed which Christ is far above (1:21)? _____

4. What has God put under Christ's feet (1:22)? _____
Do you think this "putting under" is present or future? _____

5. What is Christ said to be the head over (1:22)? _____

6. What can comfort us in this section (and take it with you for the day)? _____

Saturday (August 18)—**rejoice** that you have completed this beginning part of the study of Ephesians, and review the theme, outline, and overarching story of the book!

Sunday (August 19)—pray for today's discussion and fellowship, **determining to talk your fair share** (not too much or too little).

due August 19, 2018

The Father has blessed us in heavenly *places* (1:3)! Ephesians 1

Theme of Ephesians: the believer's identity (1-3) and responsibilities (4-6) in Christ

Message: Know and rejoice in our relationship to Christ (1-3), and walk worthy of it (4-6)!

Outline: 1-3 **Doctrine**, the believer's identity (delights) in Christ
4-6 **Duties**, the believer's responsibilities in Christ

Themes by chapter (more detailed outline):

- (1) Blessings of redemption
- (2) God's plan of salvation
- (3) Paul's ministry
- (4) Walk worthy
- (5) Walk in Spirit, and relationships
- (6) Spiritual warfare

Key verses: 1:3, 6; 4:1; 5:18-21; 6:10-18

Intro: The church is our body here—our fellowship, most glorious!
John Stott published a good commentary on Ephesians in 1979, with a great title, *God's New Society*.

Monday (August 13)—**prayerfully** read and enjoy Eph 1:1-3!

1. Who wrote this letter, how did he identify himself, and who authorized him to write it (1:1)? _____

2. To whom did Paul write this "book" (1:1)? _____

3. What was Paul's heart toward the Ephesians as he wrote this letter (1:2)? _____

4. Who has blessed us, and with what are we blessed (1:3)? _____

5. In what two places are we blessed (1:3)? _____

6. The verses which follow (1:4-14) list some of the many blessings we receive “in heavenly *places* in Christ”; where do you suppose that place is (and take it with you for the day)?!

Tuesday (August 14)—prayerfully read Eph 1:4-8; these verses begin listing some of the great blessings which we receive in “heavenly *places*”, which we can enjoy (experience) now, and which we will enjoy more fully when we see Christ face to face!

1. What blessing is listed immediately (first) in verse 4? _____

2. What is God’s goal for us (to what blessing did the Father choose us before the foundation of the world) (1:5)? _____

3. What is God’s even greater will (beyond what He is doing for us) (1:5b-6a)? _____

4. Where are we accepted (by God) (1:6)? _____

5. What two things facilitate (make possible) the forgiveness of our sins (1:7)? _____

6. To what degree do you feel accepted by God, and does how you feel about this matter (since His word has said all those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ are accepted by Him)?

Wednesday (August 15)—prayerfully read Eph 1:9-14, and continue noticing “the *heavenlies*” (literal rendering of “heavenly *places*,” verse 3).

1. What has He (the Father) made known to us (1:9)? _____

2. What is “the mystery of His will” (1:10)? _____

(bonus) What is the antecedent of “whom” in verse 11 (found in verse 10)? _____

3. What was the source of these great blessings (which blessings we hardly understand) (1:11)? _____

4. When did the Ephesians trust in Christ (1:12-13)? _____

5. What is the “earnest of our inheritance” (guarantee of what is coming to us, assurance of our ultimate deliverance from our messed-up condition) (1:13-14)? _____

6. Give something you can apply to your life, something you at least somewhat understand from this deep passage (and the longest sentence in the Greek NT, as I’ve been told, that is, verses 3-14). _____

Thursday (August 16)—prayerfully read Eph. 1:15-19, one of the great prayers of the Bible!

1. What led Paul to give thanks for and pray for the Ephesians (1:15-16)? _____

2. What was Paul’s first request to God for the Ephesians (1:17).

3. Paul’s second request for them was that the eyes of their understanding would be enlightened—to what two ends (1:18)? _____

4. To what third end did Paul want their understanding enlightened (1:19)? _____
