

Ephesians 1:1-8

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God's holy people in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:
² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us.



Why Gospel? *Ephesians 1:1-8*

1. HOW DO WE GET “EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING”?

By being **UNITED** with Christ.

- We are united with him **LEGALLY**.
Romans 6:5
- We are united with him **VITALLY**.
Romans 8:1

2. WHAT IS “EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING”?

We are **ADOPTED** as his sons.

- This means **ACCESS**.
- This means **INHERITANCE**.
- This means **SECURITY**.
- This means **DISCIPLINE**.

We are **REDEEMED** through his sacrifice.

3. WHY CAN WE HAVE “EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING”?

Through his **BLOOD**.

4. HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOU’VE GOTTEN “EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING”?

You don't just believe that you've been saved by grace – it becomes **GLORIOUS** to you.



Why Gospel?
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9/10/2017

GROWTH GROUP DIGGING DEEPER QUESTIONS

To catch the weekend message, go to: MissionTrailsChurch.com or the *MTC App*.

As this is your first Growth Group meeting, take time do a few things:

- Briefly introduce yourselves if there are people new to the group.
- Talk through the semester rhythm of weekly meetings, prayer nights, service projects, and more.
- Challenge each person to make a commitment to be at the group meeting, whenever possible, for the sake of their own growth, and for the good of the group.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. READ Ephesians 1:1-8

After reading this passage, or thinking back to the weekend message, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, inspired or confused you?

2. Based on Ephesians 1:1-8, how would you describe what the key message of Christianity is.

3. Now read Romans 5:6-11. Based on this passage, what else would you add to the description of the core message of Christianity, the gospel?

4. Thinking about these two passages (Ephesians 1:1-8 and Romans 5:6-11), and other descriptions of the gospel, what are some of the benefits we receive when we trust in Christ?

GETTING PERSONAL

5. Do you remember the first time you heard the gospel? Was/Is there any part of it that was/is difficult to believe? What parts of it first seemed like truly good news?

6. For Paul, living “in Christ” is a more significant aspect of your identity than living “in Ephesus” or “in America” or “in San Diego.”

How is your life affected by where you live geographically?

How does living “in Christ” affect who you are and how you live?

BRINGING IT HOME

7. Why do you think it is so important that the gospel be THE MESSAGE underneath every message and activity of the church? What are threats to keeping this message the main thing?

PRAY TOGETHER