



**HOUSE** GROUPS

HOUSE Groups: Discussion Questions:

Ephesians 1:1-14

**(Memory Verse)**

**Ephesians 1:3** *Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly [places] in Christ...*

**(Ephesians 1:1-3):** **1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus: **2** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **3** Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly [places] in Christ,

**Question:** How does being able to say *that we are what we are by the will of God* affect our outlook on life? How does it cause us to be thankful? How does it cause us to be confident?

**Question:** What are some of the things that come to mind when thinking of God's *spiritual blessings*, and how do they motivate us during trials in life?

**(Ephesians 1:4-6):** **4** just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, **5** having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, **6** to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

**Question:** How does knowing that you were chosen before the foundation of the world help you deal with past mistakes, and bring encouragement for the future?

**Question:** How do we become holy, acceptable, and without blame before God?

**Question:** How does holy living factor into being acceptable before God?

**READ:** *John 1:12*

**(Ephesians 1:7-10):** **7** *In Him* we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace **8** which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, **9** having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed *in Himself*, **10** that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things *in Christ*, both which are in heaven and which are on earth--*in Him*.

**Question:** Why is it necessary for the riches of God's grace, and forgiveness to be received through faith in Jesus?

**Question:** What does it mean to be *in Christ*?

**READ:** *2 Corinthians 5:17*

**Question:** How do we grow in our knowledge, and understanding of the mysteries of God?

**(Ephesians 1:11-12):** **11** In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, **12** that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

**Question:** What are some of the spiritual things that we inherit as a child of God?

**Question:** How does having a purpose alter someone's life, and why is it better for us to trust that the Lord will work out everything in our life according to His will?

**(Ephesians 1:13-14):** **13** In Him you also [trusted], after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, **14** who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

**Question:** How does *trusting* something to be true, and *believing* something to be true differ one from another?

**Question:** What does the Holy Spirit protect us from, and how does the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer act as a guarantee of God's promises?