

"Home Group Reflection" Mid-Year Review December 5th – December 9th, 2021

Prayer:

Take a few moments to praise God for all that He has accomplished on your behalf, as revealed in Ephesians 1-3. Ask that He would help you to not only recall what you have learned through the sermons, your personal study time, and your group interactions, but also to retain and apply it. Pray that He would take what you have learned and penetrate your heart with it so that your knowledge would lead to worship and action. Also, take some time to thank Him for your home group and to pray for each person in your group individually.

Key Scriptures:

Ephesians 1:3 (ESV)

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

Ephesians 1:7

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

Ephesians 1:18-20

¹⁸ Having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 2:4-5

⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:13-14

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.

Ephesians 2:18-21

¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

Ephesians 3:8-10

⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

Application:

1.	Take some time to read through the Ephesians 1-3. List at least three truths or themes that are clearly taught in these verses. What kind of impact have these truths had on your life?
2.	Which verse, or passage, in Ephesians has stuck out to you the most? What is it about that Scripture that makes it stick out in your mind?
3.	Are there any truths that you are asking the Holy Spirit to help you fully understand or apply? If so, what do you hope to be the result of this request?
4.	In what ways has our current study led you to think differently about God's plan of redemption? How has it challenged you to think differently about the church and your responsibility towards God and the body of Christ?
5.	What has your home group meant to you personally so far this year? How have you been challenged, stretched, or encouraged as a result of your home group involvement (be specific)?
6.	Think about some of the specific things that your home group has prayed for so far this year. In what ways have you seen God answer those prayers? Take time to thank God for listening and responding to these prayers from your group. Spend a few minutes as a group reflecting upon how you have seen God work through prayer this year.
7.	Reading Challenge: You are encouraged to slowly and prayerfully read through the book of Ephesians over the break in order to keep what you have learned fresh in your mind, as well as to prepare your heart and mind for the texts that we will cover when we begin meeting again in January (the plan is to finish the book of Ephesians by the end of May, Lord willing).