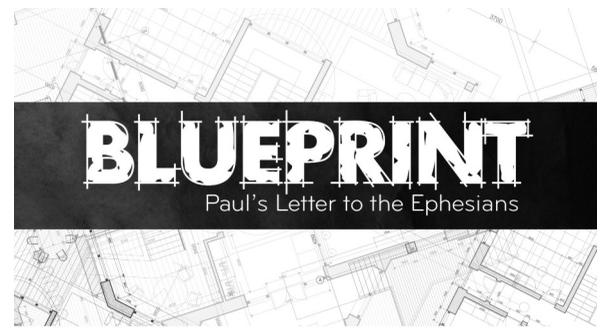


Study Guide Questions

Ephesians 1:3-14

Praise to God for Our Spiritual Blessings in Christ In the Greek this is one long sentence.

The NIV has added punctuation to help read it easier.



DAY 1

Read the Ephesians 1:3-14 three times.

1. What is the main idea? Or why are we to praise God? (Noted in verse 3).

2. Note these verb tenses: vs.3 has blessed, vs.4 chose or hath chosen (KJV), vs.5 predestined or destined (RSV) or decided (NLT), vs.9 made known or has made known (RSV) or has now revealed (NLT) or having made known (KJV), Vs. 11 chosen or having been destined (RSV) or being predestined (KJV), vs.12, 13 were, vs.13 heard, having believed or when you believed (NLT) or after that ye believed (KJV), were marked or identified (NLT) or were sealed (KJV). All are past tense. They indicate these things have already been done for believers in Christ.

3. Circle this recurring phrase: "in Christ" or "in him" (occurs 10 times in vs. 3-14)
What statement or phrase is connected with this phrase?

TO DIG DEEPER: Read the whole book of Ephesians and circle every "in Christ" or "in him" or "with Christ" or "in whom". There should be a total of 42 in the NIV Bible; the number may vary in other translations. Note what statement or phrase is connected with this phrase. What effect does this study have on you?

DAY 2

1. In verse 4: For what purpose did God choose us?

2. In verse 5: For what have we been predestined, destined or did God decide in advance for us?

How were we adopted? See also Romans 8:14,15

3. In verse 6: What is the end result of being chosen and adopted?

TO DIG DEEPER: Note the connecting words: vs.4" For" or "Just as"; vs.5 "In love"; vs.9 "And he"; vs.11 "were also" or "also" or "furthermore"; vs.12 "in order that" or "so that" or "that"; vs.13 "And you also" or "And now you" or "ye also". How do they connect each previous thought with the next thought?

DAY 3

1. The spiritual blessings mentioned so far include: 1) chosen to be holy and blameless (vs.4), 2) predestined to be adopted as sons (vs.5).

What spiritual blessings are stated in vs. 7-9?

2. What is the mystery that is made known to believers in verse 9? See also Colossians 1:25-27.

3. In vs.10 – when will this mystery be put into effect? See also Revelation 21:4.

DAY 4

1. Verse 11 is a summary statement leading to the next thought. Read verses 12-13. Who are the “We”? Who are the “you”?

2. What did the “we” do? (vs.12)

3. What did the “you” do? (vs.13)

DAY 5

1. What truths about the Holy Spirit are stated in verses 13 and 14?

2. Note the phrase “in accordance with” or “according to” in verses 5, 7, 9, 11. What is stated after each occurrence? These statements confirm that God has a plan, design, purpose for believers in Christ.

3. Read John 14:15-18. As believers, what would be our status without the Holy Spirit?

DAY 6

1. The phrase “Praise be to” starts this section in verse 3. Mark this phrase: “to the praise of his glory in verses 6, 12, and 14. What do these phrases indicate?

Application 1: This section shows us what God has done for us – the spiritual blessing as He has given us. And, that knowing this we are to praise God for them. As others see them in our lives they will bring praise to God. Take time today to praise God for these spiritual blessings He has given you.

Application 2: Considering the blessings which God through Christ has given you (refer to Day 3 question 1 and Ephesians 1:13 & 14), what are the ways you might use these blessings to bring glory and praise to God?