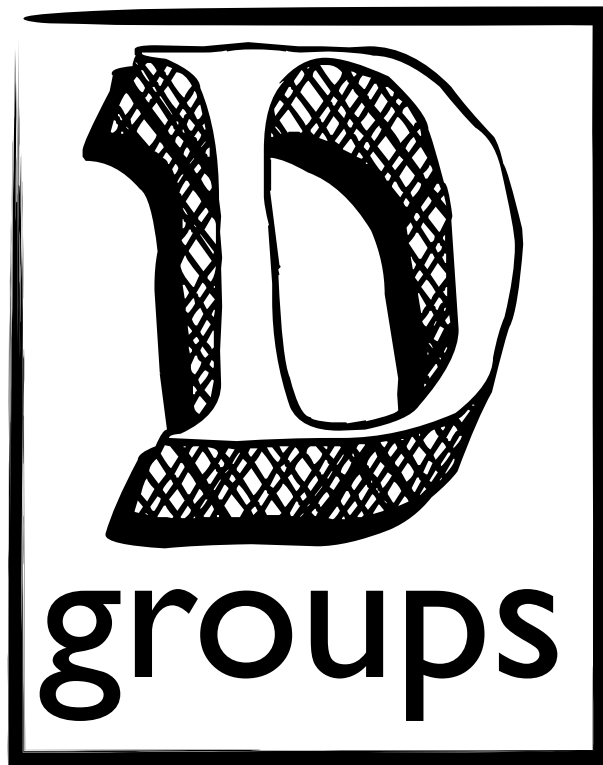


love incorruptible
EPHESIANS

'grace be with all who love our lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.'



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EPHESIANS

// NOTES

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1:1-10 // BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD

[1:1] Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,

To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are 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 in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, [4] even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love [5] he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, [6] to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. [7] In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, [8] which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight [9] making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ [10] as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

STUDY

Here's a nice, easy one to start off with: What do you think verses 4 and 5 mean? How were we chosen before the foundation of the world?

How does God 'make known to us the mystery of his will?' Have you ever thought about 'THE WILL OF GOD' before? how do you fit into it?

What does redemption mean to you? What does having redemption by Jesus' blood even mean?

LIVE

Here's something you can do: if you have a study Bible, try to find out more about the book of Ephesians. Who wrote it? Why? Under what circumstances? Look for any background info that could help you understand more about the book. Maybe try wikipedia or crosswalk.com, too.

If there are any words or phrases you don't understand - look 'em up!

How can you apply what you read/learned/talked about?

PRAY

Write down how you can be praying for the people in your group this week.

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1:11-23 // OUR INHERITANCE, HIS PURPOSE

[11] In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, [12] so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. [13] In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, [14] who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

[15] For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, [16] I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, [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, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. [22] And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

STUDY

It seems like the idea of inheritance is constant throughout this weeks passage (and last week's), what is that theme referring to? According to this passage, how can you be sure that you've been included in his inheritance?

What does it mean to be called? What part of this passage talks about calling, and what does it say? Have you been called to anything?

PRAY

Who in your life needs prayer?
Don't just pray for yourself - pray
for others!

LIVE

What have you been called to this week? Are you living out your calling? How can you live your calling - specifically?

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2:1-10 // God's Workmanship

[2:1] And you were dead in the trespasses and sins [2] in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—[3] among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. [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—[6] and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, [7] so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. [8] For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, [9] not a result of works, so that no one may boast. [10] For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

STUDY

If someone asked you, “how do i go to heaven?” according to this passage - how would you answer them? If you had to write out a timeline of how salvation works - what would that look like?

This passage says that “by grace you have been saved.” What have you been saved from? What have you been saved to? H

Good works: what role to they play in your salvation? What does verse 10 say about ‘Good Works?’

LIVE

Have you ever thought about your own “salvation timeline?” It would look kind of like this: i used to be _____ but because of Jesus, now I am _____. How would you fill in those blanks? How would you communicate that to others?

PRAY

Here’s a lofty idea: pray for people that don’t know Jesus. Pray for people in your school that are not Christians - pray that God would put someone in their life to lead them to Him... and know that person