

Bible Study for July 5-11, 2021

Read: Ephesians 1:3-14

Notes:

This week we begin a series on Ephesians, a letter written by Paul while in prison, most likely in Rome. The original recipients of this letter were the congregation in Ephesus, a trade center on the Aegean Sea with a thriving Jewish population. Paul had spent almost three years with these people, more than any other mission congregation he served. The key problem he addresses in this letter is division between the Jewish and Gentile members, leading to an overall theme of unity.

We learn from today's introductory lesson that in Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

Questions to Ponder:

Have you ever wanted to belong to another family? What circumstance brought on this feeling?

Describe the "blessings in Christ" (verses 3-9). How do they relate to praising God?

What activities and descriptive words in these verses relate to the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit?

How does being called "chosen by God" relate to our believing? (verse 13)

Does knowing you are chosen or adopted by God change how you view yourself and God differently?

What changes might you make to cement the idea that you are chosen by God?