

Fall Titus Bible Study

Jesus, My First Love.

Homework for Week One:

Welcome to our Fall Bible Study! My name is Emily Moore and I get the privilege of sharing week one with you!

This week let's spend some time in the letter to the church at Ephesus.

History: Ephesus was the capital city of the province of Asia. Paul spent three years in this area (see Acts 20, specifically verse 31). Paul was likely in Ephesus between AD 51-54 or 52-55. Later, Paul wrote this letter to the church in Ephesus while he was arrested. Christian tradition suggests that Ephesus was written while Paul was under house arrest in Rome, around AD 60-61. The letter was delivered by Tychicus, Paul's delegate (see Eph 6:21, Col 4:7).

Day One:

-Pray that Jesus would speak to you through His Word.

-Read Ephesians ch.1.

-Read through Ephesians ch.1 again and record the spiritual blessings of Jesus Christ

-In Christ, we are marked with the promised _____ (v 13).

-When were you marked with the Holy Spirit? _____

-What two things did Paul mention hearing about the church in Ephesus (vs 15):

-Use verses 17-19 as a personal prayer for yourself, for your family.

"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

Day Two:

-Pray that Jesus would speak to you through His Word.

-Read Ephesians ch. 2.

-How does Paul describe us in our sins?

- "But God..." How is God described in verse 4?

-Paul says God has made us _____ with Christ because of His great love for us.

-Dead in sins and then made alive in Christ. Paul says "you (we) are saved by _____!"

-What else does Paul say has occurred in verse 6?

We have been resurrected in Jesus Christ!

-Why are we resurrected? Verse 9 tells us not so we can boast, but verse 10 states a specific purpose? _____

-Read verses 11-13. We are brought near by the _____.

-Because of Jesus Christ, our Peace, we have been given access to _____ by _____ (v 18).

-We are no longer _____ but fellow citizens.

-Christ Jesus Himself as the _____, we are being built together in Him. A dwelling for the Spirit of God.

Day Three:

-Pray that Jesus would speak to you through His Word.

-Read Ephesians ch. 3.

-How does Paul describe himself in verses 1-8:

-Through faith we can approach God with _____ and _____.

-Use verses 16-19 as a personal prayer for yourself, for your family.

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

-May our faith be strengthened because Christ is able to do _____ than we ask or imagine.

Day Four:

-Pray that Jesus would speak to you through His Word.

-Read Ephesians ch. 4:1-16.

-Why do you think Paul mentions being a prisoner in verse 1 with his exhortation?

-What 5 characteristics does Paul state should reflect members of the Body of Christ?

-In order for unity and service, Christ has given who a spiritual gift? Some of us? Every one of us?

-What is the purpose in Jesus giving some to be apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers (v 12)?

-What is the goal (v 13)?

-What is the evidence of this maturity (vs 14-15)?

-Verses 15-16 remind us that Christ is the Head of the Body, and each of us should do our part *in love*.

Day Five:

-Pray that Jesus would speak to you through His Word.

-Read Ephesians ch. 4:17-5:2.

-What are the characteristics of living “as the Gentiles?” _____

-But when we heard about Christ, we were taught to “put off”

_____ and be made _____ (vs 22-23).

-What does Paul write that we should do in the same way that God has done for us? (v 32)

-As we are “dearly loved children” what does Paul exhort us to do in 5:1?

-What does Paul highlight that Christ did for us (v 2)? _____

If we are called to imitate Jesus, then that means we are called to live sacrificially as Christ.

-Read Revelation 2:1-5, to the church in Ephesus.

Revelation, written by the apostle John, son of Zebedee. John ministered from about AD 70-100 in Asia Minor, the location of the “7 churches in Asia” mentioned in Rev. ch 2-3. Majority of commentators believe the date written for Revelation was in mid-90s, approx. 30 years after the letter to the church in Ephesus (book of Ephesians).

-Spend some time in prayer. In response to Paul’s letter to the Ephesians, does Christ dwell in me? Does the One, Who is our Peace reside in me? Have I been made alive in Jesus? How am I sharing the love of Jesus in the Body of Christ? How do I share His love with others? Is Jesus my first love? Have I left my first love?

-In closing, receive this benediction from Paul (Eph 6:23-25):

Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love. Amen.