

---

## ***EPHESIANS 1:1-2***

---

### **GETTING STARTED...**

The book of Ephesians is a masterpiece of Paul's writing. Unlike many other books which are written to churches to address specific situations or problems going on, Ephesians is written to remind the church of God's glory. God's glory in salvation that stretches from eternity past all the way to eternity future. Paul outlines the role of the church in God's plan and calls us as Christians to live as imitators of God. Paul wants the church to be reminded and shaped by the gospel in every area of life. Not simply what we do on Sunday, but every avenue of life. And even as we begin the book, we are reminded that God has given us this letter as a reminder of the grace we have in Jesus which has given us peace with God the Father through the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Praise God!

### **READ THE TEXT: EPHESIANS 1:1-2**

---

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,  
To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:  
<sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE WORD**

1. Take a look at the overall structure of the book. How do chapters 1-3 show us the gospel? How do chapters 4-6 teach us to live it out?
2. Most New Testament authors begin their letters with a similar greeting to what we find in vs 2. Why do you think that is? How does "grace" and "peace" exemplify the Christian life and blessing?

### **REFLECTING ON THE SERMON**

3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been impressing on your heart from the sermon?

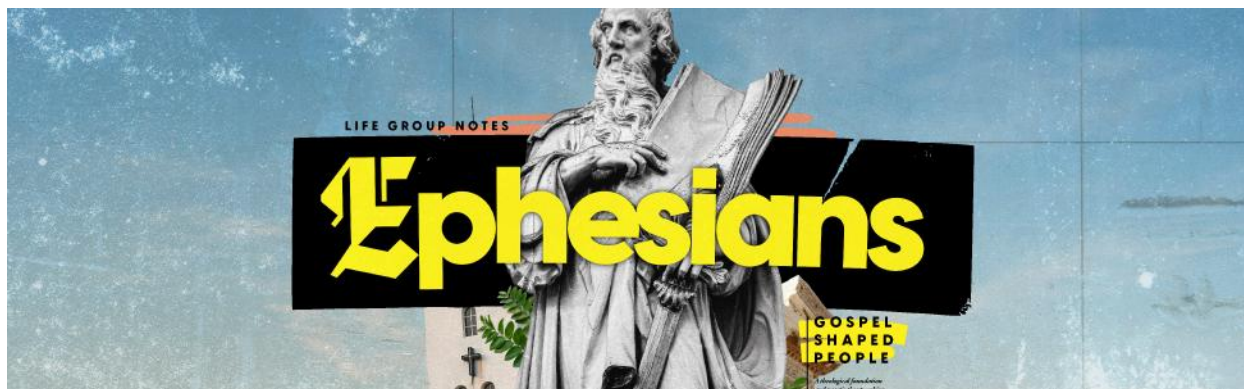
### **APPLYING THE POINT**

5. How do we put this into practice?

<i>Agassiz/Lake Errock</i>	In what ways do we experience the peace of God that surpasses understanding, as mentioned in Ephesians 2:8-10 and Romans 5:1, and how can we cultivate that peace in our lives? Paul refers to himself as the "foremost of sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15). What does this teach us about humility and the depth of God's grace? How can we apply this understanding to our relationships with others?
<i>Chilliwack</i>	Since you came to Christ, what are some evidences of being "in Christ" (new life/new lifestyle) that you have noticed or that have been acknowledged in you?
<i>Harrison</i>	Without overthinking your response, how would you answer the question "Who are you?" How do God's words in Ephesians align or reform your instinctive definition of your personal identity? How should this affect the way in which you live?
<i>Promontory</i>	What areas of life do you find it is easy to just get caught up in the day to day routine of life and forget the glory of what God has done? How can we remind ourselves throughout our day of what God has done? Where do you find worship the hardest?

## **PRAYING & SHARING**

1. How can you share what you have learned with... another believer?  
An unbeliever?
2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



## How to Use this Guide

This guide is intended to help facilitate Central Life Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Life Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God.**

The Life Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word*, *Reflecting on the Sermon*, and *Applying the Point*. We want to first understand the Word of God, and then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

While the meaning of a text doesn't change, the way that we are called to apply it may look different from campus to campus, and even person to person. To reflect this distinction, you will see application questions from each campus in this guide.

Start with the question(s) from your campus and then look at others to see if they are helpful for your group. You may be surprised how similar or different they end up being and how the diversity brings a fuller understanding to how we can apply the Word of God.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

*"Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them." - Psalm 111:2*