

THE NEW LIFE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

EPHESIANS 4-6

dpc growth group studies

DUBBO
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

study 1: Ephesians 4:1-16

FOR STARTERS...

1. Skim back over Ephesians 1-3... as a group come up with a one or two sentence summary of the first 3 chapters.

READ EPHESIANS 4:1-6

2. What is the unity we have been given? (see 4:4-6 and also 2:14-16)
3. Given this, what do we want to look like as a church?

READ EPHESIANS 4:7-16

4. In verse 3 Paul urges us to make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit. From 4:7-16, what has Christ given to us to help us keep our unity?

5. What are we all called on to do to keep our unity?

6. From verse 13, what's the end goal of us working together to keep our unity?

THINK PAIR SHARE *(split up into 2s or 3s, answer the question/s, then come back and report to the rest of the group what you discovered)*

7. What's one thing you could do in the next week to contribute to your church family being united in Christ?

study 2: Ephesians 4:17-5:2

FOR STARTERS...

1. Why do people enjoy buying new clothes?

READ EPHESIANS 4:17-24

2. What reasons does Paul give for throwing off the old self of sin and putting on the new self of righteousness?

READ EPHESIANS 4:24-5:2

3. In verse 24 we're told that we've been created to be like God. In 5:2 we're told to be imitators of God. How does being told to be like God make you feel?

THINK PAIR SHARE

4. Choose 2 or 3 of the things Paul mentions in 4:25-5:2. What helps you to want to be this kind of person?

THINKING IT THROUGH...

5. For each of the things you're looking at, what's one or two specific things you can do to put these God-like traits into practice?

study 3: Ephesians 5:1-20

FOR STARTERS...

1. What motivates you to be obedient to your God?

READ EPHESIANS 5:1-20

2. Have a go at filling in these 2 tables.

How are we called on to live from these verses?
v1
v3
v4
v9-10
v11
v15-16
v18-20

What motivations does Paul give for putting all these things into practice?
v1
v3
v5-6
v8
v16

THINKING IT THROUGH...

3. *"Christianity is all about do's and don'ts."*

What's wrong with this statement?

THINK PAIR SHARE

4. Choose one or two of the different ways we're called on to live in these verses. What's the next thing you need to put in place to help you walk in these ways of righteousness and holiness?

study 4: Ephesians 5:21-6:9

FOR STARTERS...

1. Does our culture like the concept of 'submission'? Why / why not?

READ EPHESIANS 5:21-6:9

In 5:21 Paul calls on us to submit to one another.

And then in 5:22-6:9 Paul spells out what this looks like in 3 different contexts.

2. What motivations does Paul give to wives, children and slaves as they submit to their husbands, parents and masters?
3. What motivation does Paul give to masters to treat their slaves well?
4. What goals does Paul give to husbands and parents as they lead those in their care?

THINKING IT THROUGH...

5. How do these verses make you feel?

6. What's hard about these verses?

7. What's fantastic about these verses?

THINK PAIR SHARE

8. What's one thing you've been encouraged by or challenged by as you've worked through this section of Ephesians?

Pray about these things.

study 5: Ephesians 6:10-24

FOR STARTERS...

1. When it comes to the devil, should we be scared or cautious or confident or something else?

READ EPHESIANS 6:10-13

2. In the face of the devil scheming to turn us away from Christ, what are we told to do in these verses?

Throughout the book of Ephesians Paul has been talking about how we used to 'walk' and how we should 'walk' now as those saved by Christ. See 2:2; 2:10; 4:1; 4:17; 5:2; 5:8; 5:15. In the NIV the word 'walk' is translated 'live' each time except in 2:10.

3. Why do you think Paul shifts from from the image of walking to the image of standing in these verses?

READ EPHESIANS 6:14-17

4. List off all the elements of the armour of God.

5. How would this armour of God help us to take our stand in Christ without giving in to the devil's schemes to get us to walk away from Christ?

READ EPHESIANS 1:13

6. What pieces of the armour are mentioned in this verse? (note: the word "believed" in 1:13 is exactly the same word translated "faith" in 6:16).
7. How does this help us when thinking about what it means to "*put on the full armour of God*"?

THINK PAIR SHARE

RE-READ EPHESIANS 6:10-24

8. What do you think is Paul's goal for us in writing these verses?
9. How can we help each other to stand our ground and continue in Christ?

