

GOD'S MARVELLOUS PLAN

EPHESIANS 1-3

dpc growth group studies

DUBBO
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

1. Praise be to God! | Ephesians 1:1-14

FOR STARTERS...

1. What's something that leaves you in awe of God?

READ EPHESIANS 1:1-14

2. What things has God done?
3. How has God done all these things?

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)*

4. Paul's response to our God in all of this is to praise him and to invite his readers to join him praising God. What moves you to praise your God?

THINKING IT THROUGH...

5. According to God's word, what he has done for us in Christ is ample reason to be left in awe of God and to praise him.
6. What helps you be like that?
7. What would it look like for us as a church to delight in the praise of God?
8. How can you help make this happen?

2. Knowing God is what matters | Ephesians 1:15-23

FOR STARTERS...

1. Why is knowing God important to you?

READ EPHESIANS 1:15-21

2. Why is Paul praying for the Ephesians?
3. Paul prays that they will know certain things. What does he want them to know?
 - a) Verse 17
 - b) Verse 18
 - c) Verse 19

THINK PAIR SHARE

4. Paul's praying for people who already know God, that they would grow in their knowledge of God. Why would he do that do you think?

THINKING IT THROUGH...

5. When it comes to your knowledge of God, what kind of person do you want to be?
6. What would be your next step towards becoming more like that?
7. For the child of God, knowing God is what matters. How does this help us when assisting someone going through troubled times?
8. In what ways can we encourage others to be growing in their knowledge of God?

3. Saved by God | Ephesians 2:1-10

FOR STARTERS...

1. If you're comfortable doing so, share a time when you felt helpless.

READ EPHESIANS 2:1-3

2. Our sinfulness leaves us in 2 awful realities. What are they?

a) v1-3a

b) v3b

READ EPHESIANS 2:4-10

3. In what way is our salvation a reflection of:

a) God's love (v4)?

b) God's mercy (v4)?

c) God's grace (v5, 7, 8)?

4. Why is it that 'no-one can boast' about being saved?

THINK PAIR SHARE

5. How does being helpless before God make you feel?

6. How does being saved by God make you feel?

THINKING IT THROUGH...

7. Given these confronting and glorious truths, what kind of church would we want to be?

8. How can you help to see this happen?

4. The one household of God | Ephesians 2:11-22

FOR STARTERS...

1. In what ways is forgiveness both hard and beautiful?

READ EPHESIANS 2:11-18

2. What peace has Christ established? (3 types!) And how has he done this?
3. Why does the peace with God that Christ has established mean that Jew and Gentile can now be at peace with one another?

READ EPHESIANS 2:19-22

4. Since Jew and Gentile have access to God in one and the same way (through Christ, by the Spirit v18), what does this mean for how they understand each other?

THINK PAIR SHARE

5. How do these verses help us in thinking about those times when we're at odds with someone else in our church family?

THINKING IT THROUGH...

6. What kind of church do we want to be from these verses?

7. What could that look like?

8. How can you help to make us be that church?

5. The greatness of God | Ephesians 3

FOR STARTERS...

1. Share a time when you were part of something 'big'.

READ EPHESIANS 3:1-13

2. In what ways is the coming together of Jew and Gentile as the one people of God such a big thing? [see especially v5 and 9 as well as v10-11]
3. How does this help us appreciate:
 - a) The times we live in?
 - b) Our church family?

READ EPHESIANS 3:14-21

4. What things about God are beyond measure in these verses?

5. Why is this such a great prayer given what we've read in chapters 1-3?

THINK PAIR SHARE

6. How have the opening 3 chapters of Ephesians helped you to grasp the vision of God's great plan and his great love?

THINKING IT THROUGH...

7. From chapter 3, what kind of follower of Jesus would you like to be?
8. What's one step you can take towards being more like that?
9. What would it look like for us as a church to be captured by the grand plans and the measureless love of God?
10. How can you help us be that church?

