



HOME GROUPS

Tuesday 23rd September

As we begin our journey through the book of Ephesians, the opening verses act like a headline or signpost to the rest of the letter. We see in them some of the themes that are going to be such a significant part of what follows. So, rather than skip over the introductions and greetings, let's see the riches that are contained within them for all those who are *in Christ*.

Read Ephesians 1:1-14, focussing particularly on verses 1-3.

- 1) Paul says that both He and His readers- the believers in Ephesus- have been set apart in Christ ("Holy people" or "saints" simply means set apart).

What does it mean to be 'set apart in Christ?' When might we need to particularly remember that we are 'set apart in Christ' during the week ahead?

- 2) Why are the words "grace" and "peace" much more than just 'Christian jargon'? What are the implications of you knowing more of these things in Christ?

- 3) Paul tells us that God "has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ." What particularly thrills you about this astonishing sentence?

Prayer: Spend some time turning these things over to prayers of praise to God. You might like to whet the appetite for this coming Sunday by reading more of God's spiritual blessings to us in Jesus in vv.3-14, and use these verses to fuel your prayers. There is certainly plenty in them to enjoy!