

HOME GROUPS

7th October

Ephesians: In Christ

These verses are quite remarkable. They contain so much rich Gospel truth, and really help us to appreciate something of what it looks like to be “blessed... in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ” (v.3).

We’re encouraged here to praise God (v.3, 6, 12, 14) and are given plenty of reasons for doing so! A central theme of these verses, from which God’s blessings in Christ flow, is the Lord’s will and plans and purposes.

We saw together on Sunday (28th Sept) how Paul’s three ‘headline’ reasons to praise God are the fact that we’re: i) Adopted by the Father (3-6), ii) Redeemed by the Son (7-10) and iii) Sealed by the Spirit (11-14).

Read Ephesians 1:3-14

- 1) Why is God’s choosing (v.4) and adoption (v.5) of his people reason for great comfort and assurance? In what situations might it help to particularly remember these truths this week?
- 2) How would you respond to someone who said, in light of God choosing His people:
(perhaps select one of the following to discuss)
 - “That’s not fair!”
 - “Well there’s no point witnessing for Jesus if the Lord has already chosen His people.”
 - (As a Christian) “I must be doing something right... I’m one of God’s chosen ones!”
- 3) In what ways do verses 7-10 help us when we might be living in fear or under guilt because of our sin?
- 4) According to verses 13 and 14, the Holy Spirit is a ‘seal’ and a ‘deposit’. Why is this such good news?

PRAY: *At the end of the sermon on this passage, we were encouraged to think about which one truth from these verses causes us to particularly praise God. Why not either share yours with your group, or just get on and pray together accordingly!*