



#1. "Blessed"

CONTEXT: The Gospel in Ephesus

Now a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was an eloquent man, competent in the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord. And being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John.

Acts 18:24-25

- Even Though Apollos's Knowledge Was INCOMPLETE, He Was Willing To Share What He Knew.

Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples... This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks. And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, Acts 19:1&10-11

- The Worship Of Artemis Was Central To The ECONOMY Of Ephesus.

And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be counted as nothing, and that she may even be deposed from her meteorite magnificence..." Acts 19:26

"A Hymn of Praise" [Ephesians 1: 3-14]

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, Ephesians 1:3

Question #1. How Do We Get Every Spiritual Blessing?

Answer: In CHRIST

- You Are United With Christ LEGALLY
- You Are United With Christ SPIRITUALLY

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. Romans 6: 5

"You Are Either In Christ Or You Are Not, Because Salvation Is A Gift Of Grace."

Question #2. What Are The Spiritual Blessings?

Answer: ADOPTION

in love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, Ephesians 1:5

Adoption Means

- ACCESS
- INHERITANCE
- SECURITY

Answer: REDEMPTION

in him we have redemption through his blood Ephesians 1:7

Question #3: How Do You Know If You Have Received Every Spiritual Blessing?

Answer: God's GRACE Has Become Glorious To You.

to the praise of his glorious grace Ephesians 1:6

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

- Why do you think belonging is so important for us as human beings?
- Have there been times when you felt you didn't belong?

Read Ephesians 1:1-14.

- What do you think Paul means when he says; “[God] has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.”
- What do you think Paul mean when he says “in Christ”. [see vs3, vs4 & vs6]
- Describe the point when you realized that you were “in Christ”.
- Make a list of the things this passage reveals about your identity in Christ? Which one resonates with you most?
- What is special about the fact that God chooses us as his people “before the foundation of the world”?
- How does this impact your sense of self-worth, acceptance and belonging?
- Adoption means that we have access, inheritance and security. Which one resonates with you most? Why?
- In verse 7 Paul says “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.” What thoughts or emotions does this truth evoke in you?
- How has understanding God's grace towards you, shaped your life?

Source:

Timoth Keller “Ephesians -Who is the Church” <https://gospelinlife.com/>

William Barclay “Daily Study Bible”

JD Greer “The Book of Ephesians” <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/>

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