



WEEK 3 Take-Home - Study Ephesians together...

We're walking through Ephesians together. Here are some questions & conversation starters to help you grow as you talk about your faith together during the week.

Scripture for memorization & meditation: "In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence."~ Eph.3:12

Questions for personal study...

- † **v.1** - Ministry always has a cost. Paul was a prisoner. What has serving God's purpose and God's people cost you?
- † **vv.2-6** - Think of someone you know for whom Christ is still a mystery. What would you say to him/her about Jesus?
- † **v.7** - Determine what role of service in Jesus' church you could do that would bring you great joy.
- † **vv.8-9** - R **vv.8-9** - Recall a teacher in your past who "made plain" what God has done for you in Jesus. Thank God for him/her.
- † **vv.12-13** - Plan how you will spend time with you Father this week.

Questions for group discussion...

- † **v.1** - List several financial, physical and emotional costs God's people might suffer for the sake of the Gospel today.
- † **vv.2-6** - Distinguish between the way Paul uses the word "mystery" here and the way we sometimes use the word.
- † Tell each other what Bible teaching you'd find the most difficult to speak about to others. (You may be able to offer solutions, but be careful of simplistic platitudes. Let's be honest with each other!)
- † **vv.7-9** - Recall as many ways as you can that Jesus served others while he was on earth.
- † Think of men or women who have "made plain" to you God's grace. Determine two characteristics they possessed that you think enabled them to teach you with simplicity and clarity.
- † **vv.10-11** - Name 5 actions we can do (outside of church) that may show others the wisdom of God.
- † **v.12** - "We may approach God with freedom and confidence." Tell each other what that truth means to you.

Tips for parents with young children this week...

Monday - Talk about Paul, and how he was a man God used to write much of the Bible.

Tuesday - "If you could ask God any question, what would you ask?" Tell your child how glad you are that God has revealed everything we need to know about Himself for salvation!

Wednesday - God's grace makes us servants of Jesus. We serve Jesus when we love and serve each other. What can you do?

Thursday - God says we're members of the same body. Play with toes, fingers, etc., to show how the body works together. God says we're just like that...all part of one body, the church!

Friday - Explain what it means to be discouraged. Use examples. Tell how Jesus helps us to not be discouraged--he's won the victory for us!

Saturday - Do some of the kid's questions online. (*Go to stpauldale.com; click on Youth Ministry to find "123 kid's Bible questions"*)

Sunday - Spend some time praying with your children before or after church. Explain that you go to church to learn more about God, to help welcome other children, and to have fun with their friends. After church ask about things they saw or remember hearing from their time with their Savior that day.