

## Read the Word: Ephesians 1:3-23

**Disciple Your Family:** Teach family members how to grow in their knowledge of God and how to use their attitudes and actions to demonstrate thankfulness for His blessings.

Discuss the following Key Truths and how to apply them to life. Use the questions to spark discussion.



### **Key Truth:** All Who Believe in Christ Are Abundantly Blessed (Ephesians 1:3-14)

**APPLY:** Live holy and blameless in response to the great blessings God has poured out on us.

- Looking at verse 3, what does it mean to be blessed in Christ with every spiritual blessing? How should this impact the way we view the temporary things of life?
- What does it mean to live holy and blameless lives? (We strive to put off the old thoughts and actions of our sinful nature and put on the new way of thinking and acting based on God's Word; we strive to live in a way that leaves us free from the guilt of sin; etc.)
- God has poured out His love and blessings on us. How should we respond? How does that spill over into our everyday lives?

**APPLY:** Believers praise God for making us His children through Christ.

- What do we enjoy as "children of God"?

**APPLY:** Believers praise God for the redemption and forgiveness we have through faith in Christ.

**APPLY:** All who believe can look forward to their inheritance as a co-heir with Christ. The Holy Spirit within them guarantees this.

- How does it make you feel to understand how blessed you are in Christ?
- How does knowing we have a secure inheritance give us confidence in daily living?



### **Key Truth:** Believers Should Grow in Their Knowledge of God and Demonstrate Thankfulness for the Blessings That Are Ours in Christ (Ephesians 1:15-23)

**APPLY:** Pray for God to give you wisdom, revelation, and spiritual understanding through His Spirit.

- Paul gave thanks for the church in Ephesus. What role should gratitude and thanksgiving play in the life of a Christian?
- The church in Ephesus had a reputation of faith and love. How can a church rooted in faith and love influence its surrounding neighborhoods and cities? What reputation does our church have in the community?
- Why do believers need God to give them wisdom and spiritual understanding? (Our sin nature hinders our wisdom and understanding; Satan seeks to blind our minds and understanding; we need God to help us understand spiritual truth; etc.)

**APPLY:** Pray for God to work in you by His resurrection power.

- What should the prayer life of a Christian look like?

- *What are some ways we can deepen our prayer life and communion with God?*
- *How does it feel to know God works in your life with the same power He used to raise Christ from the dead? Are you open to His work in your life?*

**Build a Foundation:** Discussion questions for elementary students.

- What are spiritual blessings? (privileges we receive as part of God's family)
- What are some of the spiritual blessings that believers receive?
- What should your response be to them?

Work together to memorize the Verse of the Month: ***Ephesians 6:11***



**Discuss This Week's Building Block:**

Believers have redemption through the blood of Christ. Redemption is being bought back from the penalty of sin.

**Everyday Extras:**

Find as many Bibles as you can. Let each family member look up Ephesians 1:3 in them. Give each family member a marker and a piece of construction paper and let them write the verse in the center. If you have younger children, write out the verse for them. Let everyone decorate his or her verse and display the verses around your home. Every time you see the verse in a room, read it aloud. Say the verse together as a family at mealtimes and when you are in the car. Make learning God's Word together fun.

**Preschool Highlights:**

Today your child learned while Paul was in prison, he wrote to the believers in Ephesus and reminded them to praise God for His amazing grace and to be thankful for His love. Paul also told them that he prayed that they would grow in their knowledge of God. We can read Paul's letters in God's Word and live by them too. **I Can Obey God's Word.**