

walking... WORTHY

Ephesians 1:1-2

The Author

1. We see in v.1 that “Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ” is the author. What are some aspects of the author that are helpful for us to know to appreciate this letter?
2. Since Paul is writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, this letter comes to us with the same authority as if God Himself were audibly speaking to us. Why is it essential we understand the authority of this text before we study it?
3. Why is it helpful and important to not merely listen to a sermon series but to read along as we go through the series? What are some of the benefits that come from this?

The Audience

4. In v.2 we learn Paul is writing this letter to saints who are becoming more like Christ, who are faithful, and who will receive this letter as God’s people. Why is it essential we also receive this letter as God’s people who are willing to change where we need to change?
5. We said when we come under God’s Word, we should be ready to change our minds, our hearts, and/or our lives. What is an example of one of these areas you have had to change as a result of coming under God’s Word?
6. It was mentioned Paul is a great example of the fact that God wants to change people and he wants to use changed people. Why is Paul a good example of this for us? What are the consequences if we don’t come under God’s Word with a willingness to change?

The Message

7. We said peace is a major theme. In Ephesians 1-3 (see especially 2:13-14) we learn God has established peace. In Ephesians 4-6 (see especially 4:3) we learn we should work for peace. Explain how Ephesians 4:1 brings these two halves of the book together.
8. It was mentioned that sometimes we like the benefits and perks of playing sports or having hobbies more than the actual sport/hobby. Have you ever been like this or known someone who was like this?
9. If we have experienced the peace of God (1-3), then we will be ready and motivated to practice the peace of God (4-6). How would you explain to someone the error of overemphasizing the benefits of Ephesians 1-3 and de-emphasizing the commands of Ephesians 4-6?
10. Is there someone in your life with whom you should walk worthy and work to establish peace?
11. We said grace is a major theme. In Ephesians 1-3 (see especially 2:8) we learn God has shown grace to us. In Ephesians 4-6 (see especially 4:29) we learn we should show grace to others. Why should we be motivated to extend grace? What does it reveal if we are not motivated to extend grace?

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12. It was mentioned that one key for being motivated to extend grace is to learn to identify with the younger brother in the parable of the lost son (Luke 15). Why is this important?

13. It was mentioned that another key for extending grace is to realize Jesus is a good older brother, unlike the older brother in the parable. Why is this important for walking worthy?