



What does it mean to be Christian? What is at the core of who a Christian is? What does that look like lived out? What does it mean to be marked? Join us as we explore some of these foundational questions from the Christian life.

### Ephesians Overview:

**Author and Date:** Ephesians was written by the apostle Paul while he was imprisoned in Rome around A.D. 61.

### First readers and their

**location:** Ephesians was written to a very cosmopolitan setting with many different ethnicities, cultures, and social standings. It was most likely sent to a group of cities surrounding the city of Ephesus. Ephesus was a major centre with a population estimated to be 600,000. It was also a major port city. Along with this economic and political standing it was also home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Temple of Diana or Artemis. It was well known to be a very immoral city.



**Why was it written?:** Paul wrote this book to expand on teachings regard-

### Open-up

Has there ever been a time in your life where you received something generous you did not expect or did not deserve? What was it? Why did it have such an impact on you?



## Into the Bible

**Read:** Ephesians 3:1-13

What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points...) Ask the question, "What does it say?" (For more help on effective Bible Study see the resources at the back)

This is one of the more challenging passages in Ephesians. The sense of the word "mystery" (greek: mysterion) is a divine secret that is now openly revealed. With this in mind, what is it that has been revealed?

How does Paul view himself? Why is that (Acts 7:54-60; 9:1-6)?

How did Paul understand the "grace given to him?" (3:8-13)

What do we learn about God and his plan?(3:10-13)



## Into my life

**Ask the question, "What does this look like in my life?"**

All non-Jewish people are included in the term Gentiles. What is the initial promise we all share in (See: Genesis 12:1-3)? What other promises can you think of that are ours in Christ?

What is the grace given to Paul in 3:8, 9? What might be the grace that you have been given?

**Grace=The outworking of God's good will in someone's life.**

What are some things that get in the way of approaching God with "freedom and confidence?" How do you approach God?

### **Other Application Questions:**

Is there something to worship or thank God for?

Is there a promise to claim or a truth to believe?

Is there something I am convicted about that I need to work on?

Is there something or someone I need to pray for this week? (Be specific)

Is there any relationship I need to work on?



Into the World

**Ask, "what does this look like in my day to day life?"**

Spend some time identifying where your group and our church are uniquely positioned to make the manifold wisdom known in our world. Pray for these things.

Prayer List:

My challenge for this week:

More Resources for personal and group use:

<https://www.precept.org/know-gods-word/>

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/1304>

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/195647>

### *A little about Westwood Church...*

We believe that God changes lives!

That motivates us to...

Bring Jesus into Life

By...

...becoming an increasingly healthy, vibrant and effective witness for Jesus in Prince George and around the world!

We do this by engaging in three things:



**GATHER**

Sunday mornings  
to celebrate and  
learn about God



**GROUPS**

Weekly meetings that  
go deeper in relation-  
ships with each other  
and God



**GO**

Serving in the church  
and community to  
present Jesus to the  
world