



2023 Focus: Living by the Word of God

Matthew 4:4

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Who I Am In Christ
Ephesians Chapters 1 & 2
April 12, 2023

Intro to Ephesians

In this letter Paul is writing to a group of believers who are rich beyond measure in Jesus Christ, yet living as beggars, and only because they were ignorant of their wealth. According to **verse #2** they were saved, and faithful, yet they did not really know who they were in Christ. Because they did not know who they were in Christ they were open to false teaching – **1 Timothy 1:7**. This false teaching produced harmful disputes rather than Godly edification – **1 Timothy 1:4**. Paul names these false teachers and their impact in **1 Timothy 1:18-20**. Thirty years later, Christ gave to the Apostle John a letter for this church indicating that they had left their first love – **Revelation 2:1-7**.

Now you see why Paul writes in **Ephesians 4:11-14** that saints are to grow until they are no longer children tossed to and fro and carried away with every wind of doctrine. It is a dangerous thing for a believer to not really know who they are in Christ.

This study is designed to show what each believer has received because of the death of Jesus Christ, and His resurrection; it is designed to show what is in the salvation package. As we study, each believer will grow in knowledge, and confidence in who you are in Christ and therefore live, and speak more boldly about Christ. Your conversation will begin to automatically be Gospel fluent, and many new individuals will be drawn to Christ because of you.

This study is both individual and corporate:

First, individually read **Ephesians 1 and 2** (without writing anything down), once in each of the following versions of the Bible: NKJV, NLT, AMPC, and International Children's Bible. Then read again and write down everything it says you are as a believer in Christ. Do this alone. Once you have made your list, read those chapters again to see if you can add to the list or have overlooked anything it says that you are as a believer. Parents, after you have completed your list, lead your children through the same process.

Secondly, share who you are as a believer with at least two other individuals.

Thirdly, be prepared to discuss who you are in your life groups, and in prayer and Bible Study, and whenever prompted by the Holy Spirit to do as you navigate the streams of life. As you do these things expect your confidence in Christ to increase, and your witness to become bolder.