

This Week's Morning Guide

Ephesians 1:3-14

The Daily Anchor

Consistency is more important than duration. Develop a daily anchor that fits your family's unique morning routine by establishing a clear, recognizable starting and ending point. This could be a small physical action, a specific transition phrase, or a set location (like the breakfast table or the car). The goal is to create a predictable, recurring boundary that signals to your kids exactly when it is time to pause and focus on the Word.

Monday: Every Spiritual Blessing (Look Back)

The Reading: "All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son." – **Ephesians 1:3-6**

The Goal: Connect Sunday's Discovery Bible Study to Monday morning.

- **Question for Youngers (1st–5th Grade):** Can you retell this part of the story in your own words?
- **Question for Olders (Middle/High School):** Thinking back to our group time Saturday, what did we discover this text teaches us about God, Jesus, or His plan?
- **The Prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us and choosing us before the world even began. Help us to live today with the confidence of knowing that we have been completely adopted into Your family. Amen.

Tuesday: Purchased and Forgiven (Observation)

The Reading: "He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding." – **Ephesians 1:7-8**

The Goal: Build basic textual observation skills.

- **Question for Youngers (1st–5th Grade):** According to these verses, what exactly did Jesus use to "purchase our freedom," and what did He forgive?
- **Question for Olders (Middle/High School):** Based on what we discovered on Saturday, what does this passage teach us about people, humanity, and our deep need for God's intervention?
- **The Prayer:** Lord Jesus, we praise You for Your rich kindness and grace. Thank You for purchasing our freedom and forgiving our sins when we were completely unable to save ourselves. Amen.

Wednesday: The Mysterious Plan (Challenge)

The Reading: "God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ—which is to fulfill his own good plan. And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth.

Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan. God's purpose was that we Jews who were the first to trust in Christ would bring praise and glory to God." – **Ephesians 1:9-12**

The Goal: Validate that faith is difficult and humans are flawed.

- **Question for Youngers (1st–5th Grade):** Sometimes our lives feel chaotic or out of control. Why is it hard for us to trust that God has a "good plan" and is making everything work out the way He wants?
- **Question for Olders (Middle/High School):** Culture tells us that we are the masters of our own destiny and should live for our own glory. Why does our natural human pride clash with the idea that God chose us strictly according to *His* plan so that we would bring praise to *His* glory?
- **The Prayer:** God, forgive us for the times we want to be in control and take the glory for ourselves. When life feels confusing, give us the faith to trust that everything is being brought together under the authority of Christ. Amen.

Thursday: The Spirit's Guarantee (Look Forward)

The Reading: "And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him." -

Ephesians 1:13-14

The Goal: Move from abstract theology to concrete action.

- **Question for Youngers (1st-5th Grade):** If the Holy Spirit is God's "seal" on you to show that you belong to Him, how can you act like you belong to God at school or recess today?
- **Question for Olders (Middle/High School):** How does knowing that God has already secured your future inheritance give you the strength to follow through today?
- **The Prayer:** Holy Spirit, thank You for being the guarantee that we are completely owned and deeply loved by God. Empower us to boldly live out our "I will" statements today to the praise of Your glory. Amen.

Friday: The Week in Review

The Reading: No new reading today. (If a refresher is needed, read Ephesians 1:13-14).

The Goal: Synthesize the week's theme and prepare to share.

- **Question for Everyone:** Looking back over all the verses we read this week, what is the most important thing you learned about God's character?
- **Action Step:** Who is someone you plan to share this week's discovery with, and when will you do it?
- **The Prayer:** Father, we thank You for the spiritual blessings, the forgiveness, and the Holy Spirit You have given us in Christ. Bless our family this weekend, and give us the courage to share Your grace with the people around us. Amen.