

# Ephesians 1:1-14 Introduction to Grace

Life Greoups Sermon Based Study

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### Easy warm-up questions (choose one)

- 1. What was one circumstance in which God "over the top" blessed you?
- What was one circumstance in which you saw God "over the top" bless someone else?

### Paul's Greeting (1:1,2)

- 1. How does Paul's description of himself (verse 1) give insight into his understanding of God's grace?
- 2. What does Paul mean by "grace" and "peace"?
- 3. How might these (grace & peace) have been important for the saints of Ephesus to focus on?
- 4. These days, how might these (grace & peace) be important for you to focus on?

#### How God has blessed us (1:3-14)

- 1. Spiritual blessings are more important than physical blessings. AGREE DISAGREE
- Who is the source of spiritual blessings? Why is it important for you to know that?
- 3. How has God blessed us spiritually? Why is it important for you to know that?
- 4. Consider the six blessings that were the focus of today's message. As you move through these, describe the meaning of the blessing and what it means to you personally to be a recipient of each.
  - #1. God has chosen us (verse 4)
  - #2. God has predestined us (verses 5,6)
  - #3. God has redeemed us (verses 7,8a)
  - #4. God has made known to us (verses 8b-10)
  - #5. God inherits us (verses 11,12)
  - #6. God seals us (verses 13,14)

## Processing all that...

- 1. In these first 14 verses, Paul references Jesus Christ 16 times. Why would Paul lay such stress on Jesus while introducing the saints of Ephesus (and us) to grace?
- These days, how might focusing on these blessings help you to stop stressing?
- 3. These days, what are you doing to stay focused on God's blessings?
- 4. Who gets the glory for all this? These days, how is it helpful for you to know this?
- 5. These days, who's glory are you living for? Yours? Or God's? How can you be sure?