

1. **Ephesians is a letter _____ a man who found a new _____ in Christ.**

- Paul at first violently _____ Jesus and the Gospel
- Paul was dramatically _____ by Jesus and the Gospel
- Paul, at the time of writing, is _____ in _____ for Jesus and the Gospel

2. **Ephesians is a letter ____ a new _____ united by faith in Christ.**

- Saints in EPHESUS **AND** in CHRIST JESUS

3. **Ephesians is a letter _____ God's _____ by grace, for peace accomplished by Christ.**

- God's salvation BY _____
- God's salvation _____

Today we begin a study of the book of Ephesians entitled UNITED. In today's message, we explore why the book of Ephesians is relevant and practical for our lives today.

We all ask and seek to answer 3 vital questions across our lives:

Who _____?	Where do I _____?	What is my _____?
the question of _____	the question of _____	the question of _____

Ephesians is a letter _____ a man who found a new _____ in Christ ____ a new _____ united by faith in Christ _____ God's _____ by grace for peace accomplished by Christ.



Ephesians and Us
Ephesians 1:1-2
Sunday, October 6, 2019
Growth Group Interaction Guide

Growth Groups are the glue which holds our church together, the way we live out our "body life" together. Most groups have been on break for the summer but are resuming throughout the months of September & October. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org.

This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody together our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group interaction guide to help groups move in that direction.

Connecting Together

Be sure to take time to connect and share life as you come together. One fun way to do this is to ask one group member per week share their life story and spiritual journey in 10 minutes or so.

Digging into God's Word & the Message Together

1. Read Ephesians 1:1-14 together as a group. What jumps out at you in these first power packed verses of the book? Anything from the message really grab you?
2. In the introduction to this week's message, we talked about 3 vital questions we all ask and seek to answer across our lives. Can you recall the questions together without looking at the outline? Do those questions resonate with you? Can you give some examples of people in your world who are answering those questions in different ways?

3. If Ephesians is all about how Christ is the answer to those 3 vital life questions, how is that reflected in even the opening verses and who this letter is from, to and about?
4. Your Growth Group as a Family: In Ephesians 1:3-14, can you find the family language? The fact that we are saved into a diverse but united community in Christ is a HUGE theme in Ephesians. In what ways is your group DIVERSE? Paul says in 4:3 that we should be "eager to maintain the UNITY of the Spirit in the bond of peace." What might that look like in your group?
5. Your Growth Group as a Servant/Missionary: Paul addresses his audience in Ephesians 1:2 as a community both "in Ephesus" and "in Christ." What are practical ways your group can live life faithfully together "in the Central Coast" but also "in Christ?" What does that look like? How do we do it?
6. What is one practical way you're going to "renew your mind" with the book of Ephesians through our UNITED series?

Praying Together

Share and pray for the needs of your group. Pray also for the growing intimacy of your group and the other 50+ groups as we study the book of Ephesians together.