

A person wearing a dark hooded jacket is seen from behind, looking out over a vast, hazy landscape. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden-orange light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The background consists of rolling hills or mountains, all rendered in soft, out-of-focus tones of orange and yellow. The entire image is framed by a thin black border.

Ephesians

Brought to Life, Brought Together

Community Group Discussion: 01.06 - 02.17

SERIES OVERVIEW

Paul's letter to the Ephesians describes to us God's mysterious plan for the church. We are brought to life and brought together for a purpose - His purpose.

"Church is the core element in the strategy of the Holy Spirit for providing human witness and physical presence to the Jesus-inaugurated kingdom of God in this world." — Eugene Peterson

MAIN TEXT

Ephesians 5:1-20

GETTING STARTED

If you only had to eat one of these for the rest of your life, which one would you choose, pizza or chicken wings?

DIGGING DEEPER

For a quick refresh on what Ephesians 5:1-20 is about watch the week four devotional video here, <https://www.redemptionin.com/ephesians>

1. Read Ephesians 5:1-2. How would your relationships and interactions with others change if you loved everyone the way Jesus loves you? How can Jesus' example help teach you how to love people you find especially difficult?
2. Read Ephesians 5:3. Are their ways you've allowed cultures views on sex to influence your life? How have God's parameters on sex been good and helpful in your life?
3. Our cultures desire for wealth and status is unhealthy, when we think we can't be happy without *that thing* in our lives. Only Jesus can be *that one thing*. What challenges God to be the thing you depend on most to be happy?
4. Read Ephesians 5:10-14. Light does not target people — light targets darkness. Whats the difference in targeting people and targeting sin? How can we shine a light on evil, in a way that brings people to Jesus?

5. Read Ephesians 5:15-18. Wisdom is knowledge lived out. Knowing about God (Theology) is important, and acts of love (Service) are important. Most churches lean heavily towards one, and away from the other. Which way do you tend to lean? How should what you know drive you to more acts of love? And how do those acts of love drive you to want to know more about God?

NEXT STEPS

What is God saying to you through his word?

What are you going to do about it, and when?

Read with us through the book of Ephesians using this daily Bible reading plan (see back page).

Week Five: Brought To Love

Day 1: Ephesians 5:1-2

Imitate your Father

Day 2: Ephesians 5:3-5

What's not among God's people

Day 3: Ephesians 5:6-10

Light from the Lord

Day 4: Ephesians 5:11-14

Awake, O sleeper

Day 5: Ephesians 5:15-21

What's the wise thing to do?