

Ephesians 2: 1-7 study guide

Chapter 1 was such an encouraging chapter to study. Hearing Paul mention their faithfulness to Christ was a challenge to me to be faithful in the details of my daily walk.

Ephesians 2 is a wonderful chapter that will enable us to clarify our past, present and future as a child of God. It is vitally important that we know where we were when God found us, what he did for us and why and where we will be when this life is over.

Spend a few moments praying, asking God to open your mind and heart to all he has for you today. To many of you this may be a familiar section of scripture, but try to look at it with a fresh focus. Read Ephesians 2:1-7 at least twice before starting to answer the study guide questions. May God bless your time in His Word.

Eph.2:1-3 describes our behavior prior to salvation.

Read Romans 3:23 and Romans 5:10 to go along with the first three verses of Eph. 2.

Rom. 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Rom. 5:10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

1. Think for a moment-What is God's glory mentioned in Rom. 3:23?
2. How do men and women know they have fallen short of God's righteousness; what has God given man so he can know?

Read Gal. 3:24; Romans 3:19-20; Jn.8:31-32

Gal. 3:24 So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. NIV

Romans 3:19-20 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. 20Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. NIV

John 8:31-32 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ESV

3. Now write a list of all you learned from these verses about your condition prior to salvation. Would you say that is a pretty accurate description of your life prior to your salvation?

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4. Do you find it amazing that God would go to such lengths to redeem those who were enemies? How far will you go for those who oppose you?

Define

* trespasses

* sins

5. Whose control are we under prior to salvation? Vs.2
Look carefully at this verse and see what facts you can find about Satan listed here. Make a list.

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6. Verse 4-6 describes God and his actions. Make a list showing what you learn about God and what he did for us.

God

What God did for us

7. Notice the repeated statement concerning our condition in vs. 5; why would Paul mention this fact again?
What can a dead person do for themselves?
Why is this such an important fact for us to know?
8. Read verses 4 - 7 and answer these questions
 1. Who-
 2. Why-
 3. When-
 4. What-
9. Look back at verse 5 (...by _____ you have been saved) fill in the blank.
10. Define the word that you wrote in the blank. (look back to study guide on Eph. 1:1-14, either copy the definition or write it in your own words.)
11. Verses 4 and 7 give us the reason for all God has done. What did he want to reveal about himself?

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12. Read Romans 5: 8-11, when we study God's word it is helpful to read from other areas of the Word to glean even greater details. Highlight all you see concerning salvation.

Rom. 5:8-11 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

13. Verse 6 states God "...raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus," go back and read Eph. 1:3-5
As chosen and adopted children of God and joint heirs with Christ how secure is our position?
As child of God and joint heir with Christ, ours is a position of authority. Because of our relationship to Christ, who and what do we have authority over?
14. Matt. 28:18 Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
This was part of the great commission. Matthew 28:16-20 what were the disciples and all believers commissioned to do?
15. Are you boldly fulfilling this commission? Did you realize the authority you have over the things of this world? What things of the world have been hindering you?

Let's stop for a few minutes and consider all we have read in these first 7 verses.

16. What happened to that make these spiritually dead men and women (and us if we are saved by His grace) into redeemed, faithful children of God?
17. What feelings did this stir in your heart?

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18. D.J. Kennedy, the founder of Evangelism Explosion, said, “Believers should live their lives as one big thank you to God for all he has done for us.” Would this describe how you are living?
God has dealt so lovingly with us. We did not deserve it. Remember what we were doing when God extended his mercy.
19. When do you extend mercy toward others?
20. How does remembering what we were before we were saved help us as we deal with the lost?
Or others we have something against?
21. Read Luke 6:32-36 how are we to respond?
Luke 6:32-36 "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. 33And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. 35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. 36Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.
22. What can you do today, and this week to show your understanding of all you have seen so far in our study of Ephesians and to express your gratitude to God for all he has done for you?