

June 8, 2025

South Sub Church

"A Season of Trusting"

Ephesians-Our Wealth in Christ

Ephesians 1:1-14 (ESV)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Sermon Summary:

Everyone desires to live a life of meaning. And there is no greater way to live with true purpose than through a deep, abiding relationship with Jesus. The Apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians reveals the key to experiencing this kind of life. In **Part I** of this series, we'll explore the spiritual wealth we have as followers of Jesus—including the abundant blessings and divine wisdom available to us. In **Part II**, we'll deepen our understanding of our spiritual position as believers and the responsibilities that come with it—how we are called to live out our faith in light of what Christ has done.

Ice Breaker Questions:

- 1. If your life had a soundtrack this week, what would be the theme song?
- 2. What's one compliment or kind word someone said to you that you still remember?
- 3. If you could receive one outrageous or over-the-top "spiritual blessing package" in the mail from heaven—no limits—what would be inside?
- 4. Imagine getting an official letter in the mail from God confirming your place in His family. What one line would you hope He included just for you?



Scripture Study Questions:

- 1. Who is Paul addressing in this letter, and how does he describe them?
- What two blessings does Paul extend in his greeting?
- 3. What does Paul say God has blessed us with in Christ?
- 4. According to verse 4, when did God choose us, and for what purpose?
- 5. What does it mean to be adopted as God's children through Jesus Christ?
- 6. What do we receive through Christ's blood, and what does this say about God's grace?
- 7. What is the "mystery of His will," and how has God made it known to us?
- 8. What does Paul say about our inheritance in Christ?
- 9. What role does the Holy Spirit play in the believer's life, according to verses 13–14?

Application Questions:

- 1. How does knowing that you were chosen change the way you view yourself?
- 2. In moments of self-doubt or insecurity, how might the truth of your adoption into God's family serve as an anchor?
- 3. Is there an area in your life where you need to fully embrace the forgiveness Christ has offered you?
- 4. How might accepting God's lavish grace help you extend grace more freely to others?
- 5. How might resting in God's sovereignty free you from anxiety or the need to control outcomes?
- 6. According to verse 13–14, the Holy Spirit is a "seal" and a "guarantee" of our inheritance. How does this truth affect your sense of security in your faith?
- 7. Can you recall a time when you sensed the Holy Spirit guiding or comforting you? How can you grow in awareness of His presence?