

Series: Understanding Who You Are Through the Eyes of God

Lesson 2: “You are God’s Instrument”

*Announcements, encouragement to invite people and opening prayer.



Connect: an opportunity for people to immediately interact and connect with each other; icebreaker/attention getters. **Icebreaker:** What would you really like to do with your life if you were able?

Transition: Outside of Christ we were dead in our sins. We were without hope in this world. In Christ we are raised to a new life with a real purpose! You are incredibly important to God’s plan.

Bottom Line: God designed you to make a difference in this world. You have an incredible role to play in God’s family.

LESSON PLAN

The NIV Study Bible points out that in Chapter 1 of Ephesians, Paul wrote of the great purposes and plan of God, culminating in the universal headship of Christ, all of which is to be for “the praise of His glory”. He now proceeds to explain the steps by which God will accomplish his purposes, beginning with the salvation of individuals.

Read Ephesians 2:1-3

1. What reminder does Paul have for the Christians in Ephesus to ground them in reality?

Question – How does following the ways of this world make us the living dead?

2. What does the ruler of the kingdom of the air do?

Question: What are some of the ways our sinful nature produces cravings and thoughts?

3. What were we by nature before Christ became our Lord?



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Question: Do most people living outside of Christ realize they are objects of wrath, without hope unless they turn to God? What can we do to help people in that situation understand?

Read Ephesians 2:4-7

4. To what do we owe God’s rich mercy?

Question - So, we are called to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves or in the manner we want to be loved. Where can we draw the line on loving if we truly love God and belong to Him through Jesus? How is that a difficult concept for most to grasp?

Question - God proved His love for us in the fact that Christ died for us when we were these sinners Paul just described, living that ungodly life. How is this a call to everyone for developing a lifestyle of personal evangelism?

5. When God raises us up with Christ, where does He seat us?

In the heavenly realms with Jesus. Epi – from and uranios – heavenly or celestial. The realm of celestial creatures. When we were raised, resurrected to new life with Christ we entered a spiritual realm. We live in this world but no longer are of this world. We have been raised above this world in Christ. That is why we are foreigners and aliens to this world. There will be second part of this raising when we are given new bodies at the future resurrection.)

6. Why would God seat us in the heavenly realms with Jesus?

Question – How would you explain to someone the fact that we are reigning with Christ? Wouldn’t that sound arrogant?



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Read Ephesians 2:8-10

7. Why did God choose to save us by grace rather than give us assignments to follow to attain holiness?

8. If we cannot be saved by deeds then why does James tell us that faith without deeds is dead, lifeless?

Question – How do you live a life serving God and not expect praise from those around you?

Question - Is it easy to serve simply because we have the heart of Christ?

Question – What if we have no desire to serve others or no hunger to do more than simply go to church and worship God?

9. When we are recreated in Christ Jesus what is God’s purpose for us?

10. What are the good works God created for us beforehand, even before we were saved?

Question – What are some of the works God prepared for us that we are good at? ...NOT so good at?

Here is the good news. God has all these incredible eternity changing plans and He created YOU to be an intricate part of them! God views you and me as vital to His eternal plan to recreate the heavens and earth in all their glory! Is that awesome or what?



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Final Question: What is the one idea that stands out to you most from this lesson?