

Ephesians Series Summary

In this six-session series on Ephesians we will explore Paul's letter to the Church. It is generally accepted that the letter was a circular to any and every church, not just Ephesus. We will dive into the lessons and wisdom found here, exploring the relevance for us and our church today.

Session 1: Blessed

Bible references: Ephesians 1

In today's session we start our journey through Paul's letter to the church in Ephesus. Focusing on the first chapter, we will discover how blessed we are as followers of Jesus Christ and the difference he makes in our lives. Following Paul's example, we will take time to recognise how our church is a blessing and give thanks for the people within it.

You will need:

- Spiritual Blessings handout
- Writing paper and envelopes

Session 2: Jesus is Our Peace

Bible reference: Ephesians 2

As we continue through Paul's letter to the Ephesians, today's session focuses on the second chapter. Paul reminded the believers that they were saved by the grace of Jesus Christ and not by the things they did or the laws they followed. He then went on to describe a unified church full of Jews and Gentiles living out their faith in peace. In this session, we will explore what this model of church could look like today and pray for God's peace in the places where we see disunity.

You will need:

- Paper and pens
- News articles

Session 3: It's a Mystery

Bible reference: Ephesians 3

Today's Bassline centres around the revelation of a mystery. Paul reveals to the people of Ephesus, and to us, that all are welcome to be part of the work and mission of the Church. During this session the young people will explore Ephesians 3 as Paul sets out the purpose of the Church and then pens a beautiful prayer for its members.

You will need:

- Paper
- Felt-tips, coloured pencils, paint (optional)
- Different translations of Ephesians 3:20-21

Session 4: Church United

Bible reference: Ephesians 4

The key message of Ephesians 4 is that we, the Church, are united in the body of Christ. In this chapter Paul emphasises the importance of unity, recognises the challenges it brings and outlines practical ways we can 'maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace' (Ephesians 4:3). In today's Bassline we'll consider the part we play in bringing unity in the Church, and how we can play that part only through the power of the Holy Spirit.

You will need:

- Labels – Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree
- Paper and pens

Session 5: Walk This Way!

Bible reference: Ephesians 5

Ephesians 5 handles some challenging topics that will need to be discussed sensitively and without judgement, creating an open space for the young people to converse freely. Paul calls us to walk through our lives as Christ did, and points to the kinds of actions that keep us walking in darkness when we should be walking in the light. This Bassline session walks us through Paul's teaching and helps us navigate its relevance today.

You will need:

- Paper and felt-tips
- Ephesians 5:21-33 *MSG* handout

Session 6: Signing off!

Bible references: Ephesians 6

Today is our final session in the Bassline Ephesians series. We'll be exploring some of the challenging and controversial aspects of Paul's teaching. How should children honour their parents? Was Paul really OK with slavery, and why did he ask the slaves to obey their 'earthly masters with respect and fear' (Ephesians 6:5)? We'll consider if there is anything in Ephesians 6 that is relevant to us today. To bring the series to a close, we'll put on the whole armour of God and recognise the spiritual battle we face as Christians.

You will need:

- Paper and pencils/felt-tips
- Ephesians 6:10-17 *Amplified Version*

